Wednesday, October 1, 2025 No 272 ₹7

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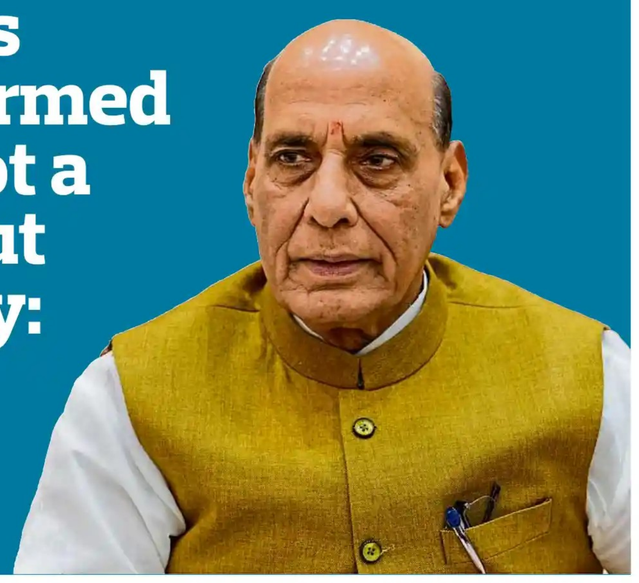
DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

Jointness among armed forces not a choice but necessity: Rajnath



Nation

Surplus post-monsoon rainfall likely from Oct to Dec: IMD

Nation

Talks with Centre collapse as Leh, Kargil groups boycott

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Ecom firms rake in Rs 60k cr in sales P.11

Sports
Speculation over sale of RCB resurfaces P.14

Mysuru Dasara
Celebrated since 1610 A.D.

Department of Information and Public Relations

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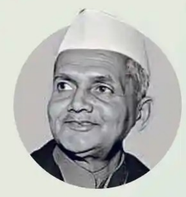
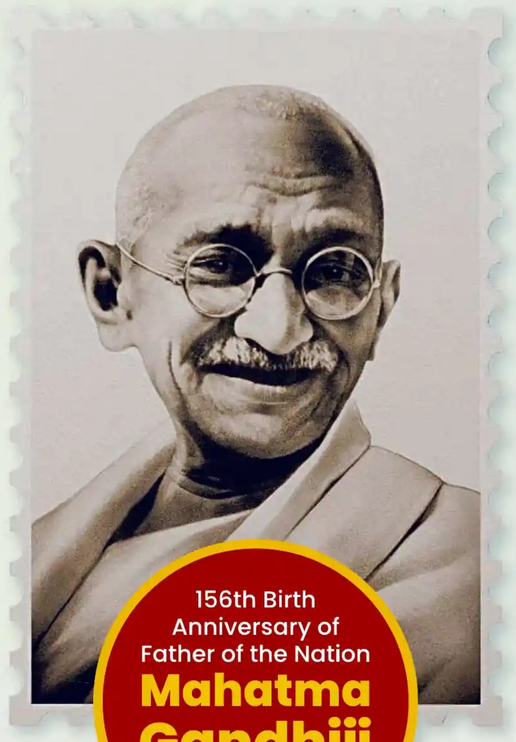


121st Birth Anniversary of
Lal Bahadur Shastri

Dasara signifies the Triumph of Satya over Asatya

World-Famous Mysuru Dasara
Nada Habba
2025



156th Birth Anniversary of
Father of the Nation
Mahatma Gandhiji
2nd October 2025

Tribute to
Mahatma Gandhiji
on his 156th Birth Anniversary
Date: 02-10-2025, Thursday | 8:30 AM
Gandhi Square, Mysuru

Nandi Dhwaja Pooja
(Balarama Gate, Palace Premises)
Date: 02-10-2025, Thursday
Time: 1:00 PM – 1:18 PM
in the auspicious Dhanur Lagna

Vijayadashami Procession
(Palace Courtyard)
Date: 02-10-2025, Thursday
Time: 4:42 PM – 5:06 PM
in the auspicious Kumbha Lagna

Torchlight Parade
(Panjina Kavayathu)
Date: 02-10-2025, Thursday | Time: 7:00 PM
Venue: Bannimantap Grounds

GUARANTEE SARKARA
REBUILDING A NEW KARNATAKA

Hearty Dasara
greetings to all

Shakthi · Anna Bhagya · Gruha Jyothi · Gruha Lakshmi · Yuva Nidhi

Protecting public property and renouncing violence is a constitutional fundamental duty of every Indian citizen

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/

karnataka information

Vijay alleges plot behind Karur stampede

Challenges Stalin to take action against him

CHENNAI, DHNS

Breaking his silence, Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK) chief and actor Vijay on Tuesday absolved himself and his party of responsibility for the stampede that killed 41 people in Karur, saying he did nothing wrong other than speaking to people from the designated point.

In a four-minute video posted on his social media pages, Vijay also alleged a conspiracy behind the stampede and dared Chief Minister M K Stalin to take action against him rather than arrest his fans and cadre.

He questioned why such a stampede did not occur in the four districts where he campaigned over the past two weeks and why this unfortunate incident happened only in Karur, lending support to theories by his supporters that the DMK could be behind it.

Vijay's statement, in which he neither apologised for the incident nor answered police questions regarding his "deliberate delayed arrival" at the venue, is likely to further energise his supporters, who have blamed the DMK-led Tamil Nadu government for the tragedy.

TVK chief Vijay

"CM sir, if you want to take revenge, please do it with me. Please spare my supporters and fans. I will be here at home or at the office. Do whatever you want to do with me," Vijay said, indirectly daring Stalin to arrest him. The DMK administration has been cautious in not naming Vijay in the FIR or directly blaming him for the incident over the past three days.

"We did no wrong other than speaking from the designated place," he said, alleging that FIRs have been lodged against his fans and supporters.

"I also know that no matter what they say, it will not solve anything. The people receiving treatment in hospitals should get well soon. I will meet all of you as soon as possible," he added.

He also thanked political leaders from across the spectrum who supported him during this incident, including Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Leader of Opposition Edappadi K Palaniswami, and former BJP chief K Annamalai.

Fandom to fallout: Time to rein in cadre

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Every time Vijay addresses a public rally, his party Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK) issues a set of guidelines to its cadre and supporters, instructing them not to climb trees, compound walls, electric lamp posts, or transformers, and to avoid following the actor-politician's vehicle before and after the event. TVK is likely the only political party in Tamil Nadu compelled by its own cadre to issue such instructions ahead of Vijay's public programs.

However, Vijay's supporters have consistently ignored both party and police guidelines. Fans dangerously trail the actor's specially designed bus on two-wheelers, with pillion riders waving enormous maroon-yellow TVK flags — a common sight at Vijay's rallies.

These fans have also normalised following their leader's vehicle from one campaign point to another, causing severe traffic snarls and public inconvenience. Despite several such incidents, Vijay, who commands a vast and fervent support base including many women, has never advised his fans and cadre to behave responsibly in public.

In fact, he appears to relish the unruly behaviour of his supporters, frequently asking in his rallies why unreasonable restrictions are imposed only on TVK. Political analysts believe that, in his first year as a politician, Vijay has not attempted to convert his fans into disciplined cadre; instead, he has remained silent, indirectly condoning their actions.

A BJP delegation led by MP and actor Hema Malini inspects the TVK rally stampede spot, in Tamil Nadu's Karur district on Tuesday. PTI

He has not groomed a second-rung leadership and seems to believe that his "cult" status among supporters will ensure his political success. None of his aides have political experience or knowledge about crowd management. Even on September 27, Vijay delayed his arrival in Karur by four hours and switched off the spotlight inside the bus, which apparently prompted people to move towards the bus, resulting in a catastrophe.

Eyewitness accounts from Velusamypuram indicate that the stampede that killed 41 people may have been triggered by a tree branch collapsing under the weight of about 10–15 fans sitting on it.

Onus on DMK too

While it is true that TVK did not provide basic amenities like drinking water for the waiting crowd, the DMK administration cannot absolve itself from responsibility. Questions have also been raised as to why the police did not cancel permission for Vijay's campaign.

"Police should have asked the party to host the event at an open area on the outskirts of Karur rather than permitting the rally within the city limits. They were well aware of the enormous crowds that Vijay's rallies drew in Tiruchirapalli, Ariyalur, Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur," senior journalist R Bhagwan Singh told *DH*.

He also said that the decision-makers probably thought that giving Vijay a larger space could lead to a bigger turnout and further boost his image.

"In such a scenario, Vijay would have celebrated it, reinforcing the popular notion that he is emerging as the frontrunner for the elections seven months from now," Singh said, adding, "The allotment or denial of space is indeed a political decision."

Tri-service synergy a necessity, not a choice: Rajnath

NEW DELHI, PTI

The tri-services synergy with unified real-time operational coherence demonstrated during Operation Sindoor was a "living example" of delivering decisive results and it must become the benchmark for all future military actions, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday.

Rajnath Singh

In an address at an event, he asserted that jointness among the three services is not only a matter of policy but a matter of survival in the fast-changing security environment, seen as an indication that the government was determined to implement the much-talked-about theaterisation plan.

The defence minister's remarks came over a month after Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh suggested that the armed forces must not come under any pressure to roll out theatre commands, and proposed the setting up of a joint planning and coordination centre in Delhi comprising top military brass to ensure tri-services synergy.

The defence minister argued that "compartmentalisation" must give way to open sharing and collective learning in today's security climate.

"Our government's objective is to further promote jointness and integration among the tri-services. This is not only a matter of policy but a matter of survival in the fast-changing security environment," he underlined.

Singh highlighted how the Indian Air Force's Integrated Air Command and Control System worked in unison with the Army's Akashteer air defence system and the Indian Navy's Trigun, making it a joint operational backbone during the May 7 to 10 conflict between India and Pakistan.

"During Operation Sindoor, the tri-services synergy produced a unified, real-time operational picture. It empowered commanders to take timely decisions, enhanced situational awareness, and reduced the risk of fratricide," he said.

"This is the living example of jointness delivering decisive results, and this success must become the benchmark for all future operations," he said.

'Witch-hunt': Wangchuk's wife

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Social entrepreneur and educator Gitanjali Angmo on Monday challenged authorities to an open debate over allegations against her activist husband, Sonam Wangchuk, including suggestions of links with Pakistan, even as she described it as a "witch-hunt" spreading "baseless narratives" aimed at portraying him as an "anti-national".

Angmo told reporters that there was no need to invoke the National Security Act against Wangchuk, who has been detained in Rajasthan's Jodhpur following his arrest in Ladakh. She said she decided to travel to Delhi to counter the "one-sided narrative" after feeling that she was "almost under house arrest".

Wangchuk had been on a hunger strike seeking statehood and the extension of the Sixth Schedule to Ladakh and is accused of instigating violence in Ladakh on 14 September, which led to the death of four people and injuries to over 50.

Referring to the September 24 violence, she said, "When the violence happened, Sonam was at the site of the hunger strike. He did not even know what was happening... Wangchuk is not answerable for the violence. The administration should explain why there was a breach and why the violence occurred."

Leh, Kargil groups boycott talks with Centre, demand Wangchuk's release

Curfew relaxed in Leh, internet blackout continues

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

The Centre's dialogue with Ladakhi leaders has collapsed after both Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) pulled out of scheduled talks, even as curfew was relaxed in Leh on Monday with a sweeping internet shutdown following last week's violent clashes.

A day after LAB walked away from the October 6 meeting, KDA co-chairman Asgar Ali Karbalai announced in New Delhi on Tuesday that his group too would stay away unless climate activist Sonam Wangchuk and other detainees are released and a judicial inquiry is ordered into the September 24 police firing that killed four protesters.

"We dismiss all allegations of the UT administration and MHA. Sonam Wangchuk, who is a hero of the country, should be immediately released," Karbalai said, condemning attempts to brand Ladakhis as "anti-nationals."

Security personnel patrol at a market during a four-hour relaxation in the curfew, in Leh, on Tuesday. PTI

The LAB and KDA leaders have reaffirmed their commitment to non-violent protests, warning that Ladakh should not become a conflict zone. They have vowed to continue public meetings and delegations to national and international forums.

Curfew and blackout

Authorities on Tuesday eased the curfew in Leh for four hours, allowing grocery stores, vegetable vendors and hardware shops to open from 10 am to 2 pm. But internet services remain suspended until October 3 under provisions of the Telecommunication Act, 2023, and the Telecommunications (Temporary Suspension of Services) Rules, 2024. Officials said the blackout was necessary to curb inflammatory content and ensure public safety.

The unrest stems from a shutdown in Leh that spiralled into clashes on September 24, when security forces opened fire on demonstrators demanding statehood and Sixth Schedule safeguards.

Four people were killed and dozens were injured. Wangchuk was later detained under the National Security Act on charges of provoking unrest and maintaining links with foreign entities, sparking outrage in Ladakh, where he is often seen as a symbol of grassroots activism.

A long-standing demand

The statehood agitation dates back to 2019, when Ladakh was carved out of Jammu and Kashmir and made a Union Territory without an elected assembly. While the decision was initially welcomed in Leh, anger mounted over fears of demographic change, loss of safeguards and political marginalisation.

In 2021, LAB and KDA—representing Buddhist-majority Leh and Muslim-majority Kargil—formed a joint front to demand full statehood, Sixth Schedule protections for land and jobs, a Public Service Commission, and separate Lok Sabha seats for Leh and Kargil. Despite multiple rounds of talks with the Ministry of Home Affairs, no breakthrough has been achieved.

Now, with both Leh and Kargil leadership walking out, the Centre faces the prospect of a hardening agitation just as the cold desert region heads into its long winter shutdown.

PM Modi welcomes Trump's plan to end Gaza conflict

NEW DELHI, PTI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday welcomed US President Donald Trump's plan to end the Gaza conflict and said it provides a viable path to long-term peace, security and development for the Palestinian and Israeli people as well as the larger West Asian region.

Modi also hoped that "all concerned" would come together behind Trump's initiative and support it to end conflict and secure peace.

The plan, unveiled after talks between Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, proposes an immediate end to the war in Gaza, release of all the hostages held by Hamas and demilitarisation of the Strip.

"We welcome President Donald J. Trump's announcement of a comprehensive plan to end the Gaza conflict," Modi said in a post on X.

"It provides a viable pathway to long term and sustainable peace, security and development for the Palestinian and Israeli people, as also for the larger West Asian region," the prime minister said.

BJP slams Chidambaram for 26/11 retaliation remarks

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The BJP on Tuesday launched a scathing attack on former Union Home Minister P Chidambaram over his recent remarks in an interview on the UPA government's decision not to retaliate against Pakistan after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, and accused the Congress of 'mishandling' the situation due to foreign pressure.

Chidambaram

During an interview, Chidambaram said that while former prime minister Manmohan Singh deliberated over the need to retaliate against Pakistan after the 26/11 terror attacks, which left over 150 people dead, the UPA government was advised by the foreign ministry and diplomats that retaliation was not ideal.

"Two or three days after I took over, Condoleezza Rice came to meet me and the prime minister and said, 'Please don't react'. I said this is a decision that the government will take. But, an act of retribution did cross my mind," the Congress leader said.

'Too little, too late'

Reacting to Chidambaram's statements made during the interview, Union minister Pralhad Joshi said it was 'too little, too late'.

"After 17 years, Chidambaram, Former Home Minister, admits what the nation knew—26/11 was mishandled due to pressure from foreign powers. Too little, too late," he posted on X.

BJP spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari took to X and said the Congress party is 'anti-India'.

"It's clear Sonia Gandhi did not want India to attack Pakistan post 26/11 terror attacks. From Batla House to 26/11 to Operation Sindoor to Operation Tilak, the Gandhi-Vadra family is anti-India, pro-Pak," he posted.

'Who prevailed?'

Party spokesperson Shehzad Poonawala wondered who the government listened to. "Who prevailed? Sonia Gandhi? Dr Manmohan Singh via SG? He alludes to how US Secy of State Condoleezza Rice insisted that India shouldn't react."

"Why was UPA taking orders from her? Why did Sonia Gandhi prevail over HM? Eventually, we gave MFN status to Pakistan. Never acted on a series of terror attacks and lost many, many lives," Poonawala said. He further said that that is the reason the Congress still hasn't congratulated the Indian cricket team for its win over Pakistan in the Asia Cup 2025.

Apply for FCRA renewal four months before expiry, NGOs told

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday directed all NGOs to submit their application for the renewal of the registration under the FCRA at least four months ahead of the expiry of the validity for timely processing and to avoid disruption in their activities.

All NGOs receiving foreign funding mandatorily have to register under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) 2010. The registration certification is normally valid for five years.

In a public notice, the home ministry said Section 16(1) of FCRA, 2010 requires every person granted a certificate under Section 12 to apply for renewal within six months before the expiry of the validity of the certificate. Under the law, the central government shall ordinarily renew the certificate within 90 days from the date of receipt of application.

IMD forecasts wetter-than-normal Oct-Dec for most parts of India

NEW DELHI, PTI: Most parts of India, except some areas in the northwest, are likely to receive above-normal rainfall during the post-monsoon season of October to December, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Tuesday.

The four-month southwest monsoon season ended on Tuesday with the country recording 8% above normal rainfall.

At an online press conference, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said most regions are expected to get above-normal rainfall in the October-December period, while parts of northwest India may see normal to below-normal showers.

He said rainfall in October is expected to be 15% higher than normal, following the abundant rains during June-September.

"Maximum temperatures are expected to remain below normal in October in the northern plains, central and peninsular India. They will be above normal in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, eastern Uttar Pradesh and the Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat," Mohapatra said.

Vehicles ply on a waterlogged road amid rainfall in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

India received 937.2 mm of rain against the normal of 868.6 mm this monsoon season, a surplus of 8%.

East and northeast India recorded 1,089.9 mm rainfall, 20% below the normal of 1,367.3 mm. Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya saw deficient rainfall in three of the four monsoon months.

"Rainfall over east and northeast India this season was the second lowest since 1901. The lowest was in 2013 (1,065.7 mm). Studies show rainfall in this region has decreased over the last two decades," Mohapatra said.

Northwest India recorded 747.9 mm, 27.3% above normal, the highest since 2001 and the sixth highest since 1901. All districts in the region saw above-normal rain in June, August and September.

The IMD attributed the surplus rain to active monsoon conditions supported by frequent western disturbances that enhanced rainfall over the region.

NIGHT OF RITUAL

Gujarat's special garba: Men in sarees dance to lift a curse

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

As the clock struck 10 at night, the auspicious mahurat began. The men, casually chatting, rose from their seats and started wearing petticoats and draping sarees over their shirts and trousers. The women in the house helped them drape the sarees. In the cramped room, the men struggled to adjust and tuck them carefully.

Once ready, they stepped out together and walked towards the small but brightly decorated temple, where devotional music blared at full volume. They were enthusiastically welcomed by the crowd, who had been eagerly waiting and braving the rain and humidity.

On the eighth night of Navratri in Gujarat, as garba fever peaked across the state, the walled city of Ahmedabad — locally known as a pol — witnessed a ritual unlike any other. The men in sarees performed a dance called 'Saduma na Garba', a garba tradition said to have continued for over 200 years.

According to legend, Saduma was tricked by the ruler of her time, which led to her death. Before dying, she killed her child as an act of defiance and anguish against the Barots for failing to protect her, and she cursed them. Since then, the Barots, famous as bards and genealogists, have been performing this garba to appease Saduma, now a revered deity, and to lift her curse.

The men perform 'Saduma na Garba,' a 200-year-old dance tradition.

"This is our sacred night. I had taken a mannat that if I got married, I would perform this ritual," said Raj J Barot, a 21-year-old engineering student. Similarly, Parth S Barot, a physiotherapist, said he participated for the well-being of his family and the larger community.

While the Barot community sees it as a story of pure devotion, a women's group called 'Lal Lipstick', led by standup comedian Preeti Das and Renu Pokharna, has been organising storytelling sessions around the ritual. They frame it as an act of "gender fluidity", using performance to challenge patriarchy.

ED questions actor Urvashi Rautela in online betting case

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday questioned actor and model Urvashi Rautela in a money laundering case linked to an online betting and gaming platform named 1xbet, official sources said.

The 31-year-old is the India ambassador of the platform, registered in the Caribbean island of Curacao.

The ED has recorded her statement under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), sources said. The ED has questioned cricketers such as Yuvraj Singh, Suresh Raina, Robin Uthappa and Shikhar Dhawan, apart from actors Sonu Sood, Mimi Chakraborty and Ankush Hazra, as part of over the last few weeks.

Some online influencers have also been questioned.

The ED is also expected to attach assets worth crores of rupees of some sportspersons and actors under the anti-money laundering law as part of the probe.

DH
DECCAN HERALD
The Power of Good

Congestion tax reports false, says DKS

Deputy CM says there's no such proposal before him amid BJP criticising the move

Page 5

DH
DECCAN HERALD
DH wishes its readers a
HAPPY DASARA
Our offices will remain closed today on account of Ayudha Puja and there will be no issue of the paper on Thursday
For latest news, visit www.deccanherald.com

Bengaluru's 5 new corporations all set to get 368 wards

Govt gives 15 days to file objections; West corpn to have most wards

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's five newly carved out corporations will encompass a total of 368 wards, according to the draft delimited wards published by the Karnataka government on Tuesday, nearly a month after it dissolved the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

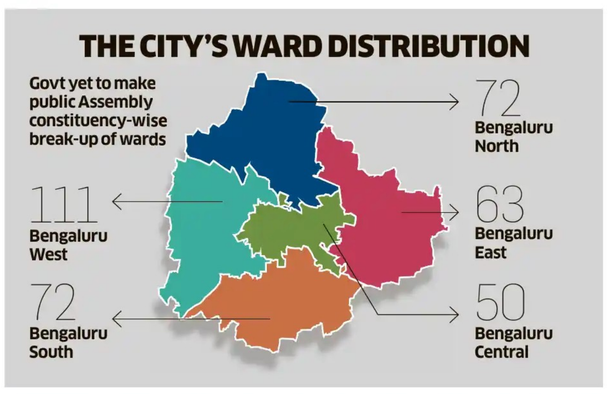
This will pave way for holding the much-delayed elections to the five municipal corporations.

However, there is still some uncertainty about when the elections will finally be held, as ward reservations remain another sticky issue that has previously held up the elections.

According to the draft notification, the wards are distributed as follows: Bengaluru Central will have 50 wards, Bengaluru East 63 wards, Bengaluru North 72 wards, Bengaluru South 72 wards, and Bengaluru West, the largest, with 111 wards.

Citizens have been given 15 days to raise any objections.

While the government has shared the names of roads to outline the boundaries in the draft notification, it is yet to make public the Assembly constituency-wise breakup of wards, as well as the map to make it visually easier to understand the new wards.



Cong aims to loosen BJP grip

Congress is looking to break the BJP's hold over the city with the ruling party having started preparations to face elections to five municipal corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

These elections, which are likely next year, will be the first in Bengaluru since 2015 when the BJP won 100 out of 198 wards of the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Page 4

Based on 2023 data, the average population of a ward in corporations such as Central, West, North, and South will be around 40,000.

Bengaluru East City Corporation – which covers just two Assembly constituencies – will have an average population of 26,000 per ward.

However, this corporation has a large migrant population.

This is the third time the ward boundaries have been modified since the now-dissolved BBMP held elections a decade ago.

In July 2022, the BJP-led government carved out BBMP into 243 wards, up from 198 wards.

The Congress, which came to power in the state, reduced the number to 225 the following year. Sources in the government said formalities such as issuing the final notification for the newly carved wards and reservations would be completed by the end of this year.

However, they added that the elections to the five corporations may be held only by mid-next year.

While the total number of wards in the Greater Bengaluru Area (GBA) has increased by 170 compared to the 2015 elections, the outer area of the now-dissolved BBMP has remained the same.

The government has split almost all the existing wards to redraw boundaries for the 368 wards. Some ex-councillors have mentioned that their wards have been redistributed across four to six new wards.

Another report, Page 2

B'luru cybercrime tally more than top 10 cities' total

Cases in 2023 almost double those in 2022

PRAJWAL D'SOUZA
BENGALURU, DHNS

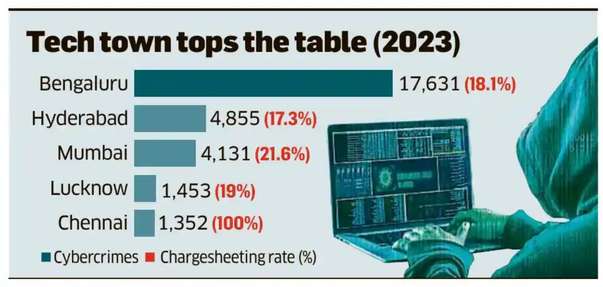
Bengaluru, called the Silicon Valley of India, has remained the metropolitan city with the largest number of cybercrime cases in 2023. The cases recorded by the city in a single year are more than those in the next 10 cities combined.

These figures were made public on Monday by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) which released its annual Crime in India report for 2023.

According to the data, Bengaluru reported a whopping 17,631 cybercrime cases. This is almost double (77.37%) the cases recorded in 2022 (9,940). In 2021, the city reported 6,423 cases.

With Bengaluru accounting for 54% of all cybercrime cases, the next 10 cities, including Hyderabad, Mumbai, Delhi and Lucknow, had a total of 14,494 cases.

The rate of filing chargesheets by cybercrime investigators remained an abysmal 18.1%, indicating that tracing cybercrimes was a daunting task. Of the total cases, 17,122 were booked under sections related to computer-related offences, the report said, of which cheating by impersonation was 16,116 cases.



Meanwhile, Karnataka reported 21,889 cases in 2023 — the most across the country — with a chargesheeting rate of 18.1%. Fraud remained the major motive with 18,602 cases.

The southern state was followed by its neighbour, Telangana, with 18,236 cases and Uttar Pradesh with 10,794 cases. Telangana and UP had chargesheeting rates of 20.9% and 45.6% respectively.

However, the crime rate was higher in Telangana at 47.8% compared to Karnataka's 32.3%, indicating that the former had more cases per capita.

Until 2023, the country saw traditional forms of cybercrimes like impersonation, OTP fraud, card skimming, etc.

▸ **Cybercrime, Page 6**
More reports, Pages 4, 7

9 workers die in Chennai scaffolding collapse

CHENNAI, DHNS: At least nine migrant workers from Assam were killed and another injured when an iron scaffolding came crashing down at a construction site at the Ennore Special Economic Zone thermal power project in Chennai on Tuesday.

The incident took place on Tuesday evening during the construction work of the power plant being carried out by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL).

"They fell down from a height of 45 metres according to initial reports," J Radhakrishnan, additional chief secretary (Electricity), told reporters. One injured worker is undergoing treatment at the Government Stanley Medical College Hospital in Chennai.

The workers were building a concrete arch from the iron scaffolding when it collapsed.

▸ **Collapse, Page 6**

CM announces additional relief of Rs 8.5k/ha for flood-hit farmers

KALABURAGI, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the government will provide additional compensation of Rs 8,500 a hectare to farmers affected by heavy rain in Kalyana Karnataka and Kittur Karnataka regions. This will be over and above the compensation provided under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) norms.

Siddaramaiah, who conducted an aerial survey of flood-affected districts of Kalaburagi, Bidar, Yadgiri and Vijayapura, told reporters after chairing a meeting of elected representatives, ministers and officials in Kalaburagi on Tuesday that dry land farmers will now get Rs 17,000 a ha instead of Rs 8,500. Farmers of irrigated land who sustained crop loss will get Rs 22,500 (instead of Rs 17,500) and farmers who cultivate using multiple water sources will get Rs 31,000 a ha. This additional assistance to farmers will cost the state exchequer Rs 2,000 crore, said the chief minister.

▸ **CM, Page 6**

Bihar SIR out; state has 7.42 cr voters, 3.36 lakh out of rolls

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Bihar has 7.42 crore voters as of now, according to the final electoral list prepared by the Election Commission after the contentious Special Intensive Revision (SIR) that stirred plenty of controversy.

According to the EC, 3.66 lakh people who managed to get into the draft list could not find their names in the final list, which was published on Tuesday afternoon, while another 21.53 lakh were added to the final list.

The reason for deletion of names could be their inability to provide documents to prove their citizenship or their domicile.

The total number of voters will rise before the elections as new voters can register up to 10 days before the last date of filing of nominations.

Bihar had 7.89 crore people in the electoral rolls as of June 24 and the SIR exercise started the next day. A draft roll was published on August 1 after people were given time till July 25 to submit enumeration forms along with required documents.

▸ **Bihar, Page 6**

REMEMBERING
Dharmarathnakara Dr. N.Mahalingam
21 MARCH 1923 - 02 OCTOBER 2014
The Legend. The Legacy.

I want to be remembered as an industrialist and a builder of institutions, someone who loves those around him and a worshipper of Jyothi.
All through my life I have aspired for peace and social justice for everyone.
I know God will answer my prayers.

- Dr. N. Mahalingam, From the Biography, The Living Legend

"I believe that non-violence is infinitely superior than violence; forgiveness is more manly than punishment. Non-violence is the law of our species as violence is the law of our species as violence is the law of the brute"

(M.K. Gandhi, "The Doctrine of the Sword")

Dr. N. Mahalingam followed this philosophy throughout his life.

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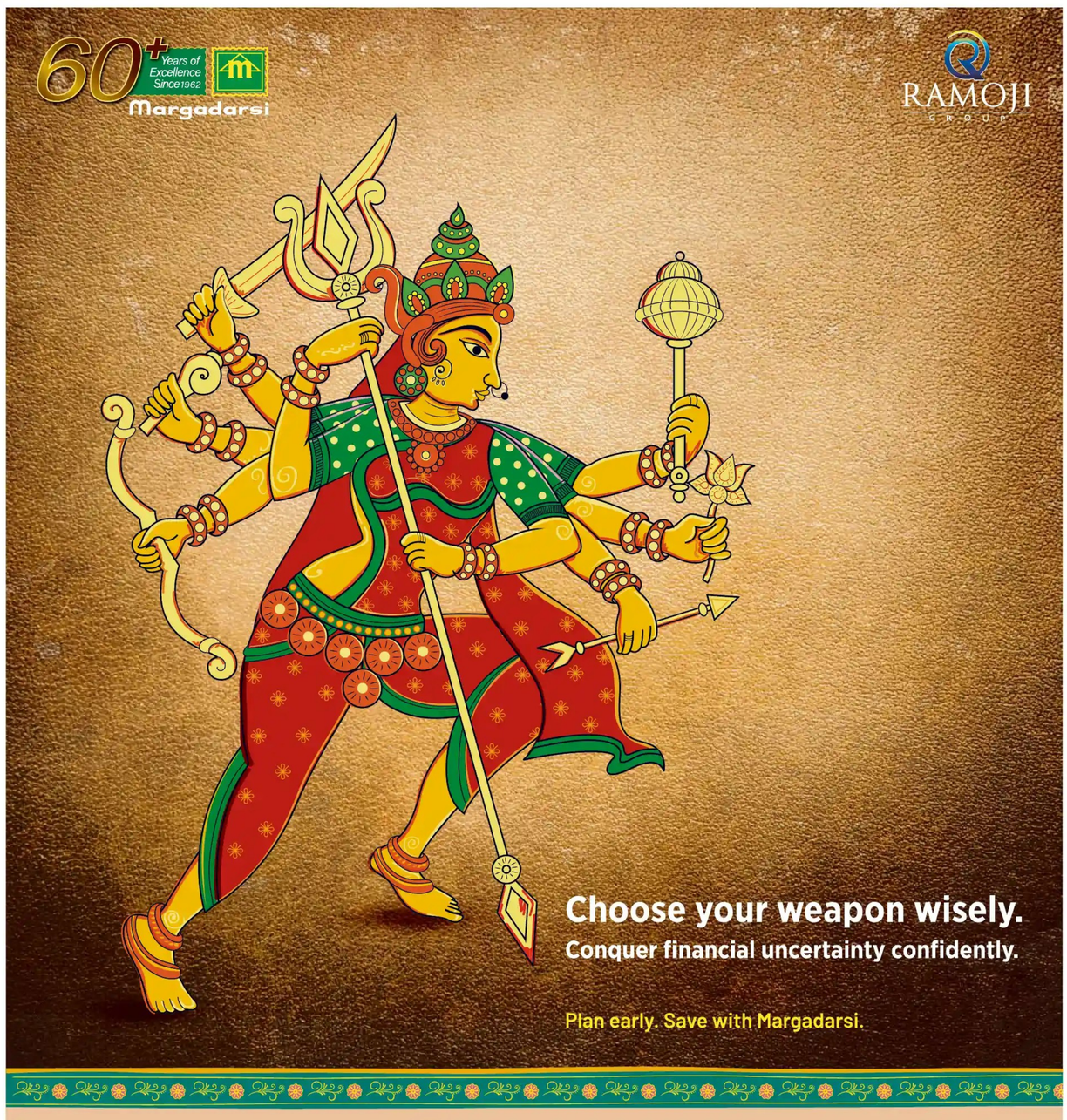

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4th year in a row: B'luru tops NCRB's chart for civic negligence deaths

Health issues caused by poor infra widespread

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

In 2023, 20 people lost their lives in Bengaluru in 19 separate incidents linked to civic body negligence, data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) shows.

Bengaluru recorded the highest number of such deaths among 18 metropolitan cities, marking the fourth consecutive year it has topped the list.

Most deaths were attributed to poor roads and potholes, with others caused by electrocution, broken or encroached footpaths, and faulty public infrastructure.

On Monday, residents of Budigere alleged that a 22-year-old college student was run over by a truck after falling from her two-wheeler while navigating a pothole-ridden road.

While the NCRB tracks fatalities, citizens said injuries and long-term health issues caused by poor infrastructure are widespread.

"Many of us have fallen down and have fractures. Many of my friends have also complained of back pain and other problems such as slip disc and bulged disc. The health hazards owing to the poor roads are numerous," said Sneha S, a techie from Bellandur.

Deaths as per NCRB records

2021	2022	2023
31	21	20

Numbers peaked in 2019 with 49 incidents, compared to just three in 2018. The toll fell in recent years, with 31 deaths in 2021, 21 in 2022, and 20 in 2023.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recently pulled up engineers and contractors over the state of Bengaluru's roads, setting a one-month deadline to make city roads pothole-free.

"Aspirants have been prioritised over citizens while carving out wards. I suspect there is a major disparity in population sizes across wards, especially since the government has not released the relevant data. Some assembly constituencies now fall under multiple corporations, which will only lead to administrative chaos. Even the new boundaries are unclear.

SURESH KUMAR
Ex-Minister & MLA, Rajajinagar

"I haven't yet seen the final ward maps, but some former councillors are unhappy with the wards being made too small. Increasing the number of wards from 198 to 368 is excessive. Corporators may not have much work to do. Ideally, we should have created just three corporations and incorporated fast-developing areas currently under the panchayat limits..

RAMALINGA REDDY
Transport Minister, MLA, BTM Layout

"The increase in the number of wards will bring governance closer to the people. This is a historic decision that no government had dared to take. The deputy chief minister has made the GBA a reality at marathon speed. Now, local issues that one commissioner and one mayor struggled to handle will be distributed more evenly across the city.

SAMPATH RAJ
Ex-Mayor (Cong)

"My ward has been divided among four newly carved wards. I see no scientific basis for the delimitation. It seems the Congress government wants to win the Bengaluru North City Corporation by splitting BJP-stronghold wards into multiple parts

PADMANABHA REDDY
Ex-Councillor (BJP)

With 368 wards, corporation elections expected to witness high-stakes battles

Fewer votes in wards will cut margin

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

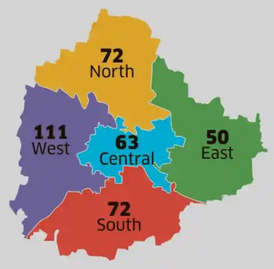
With the government carving out 368 wards without expanding the Greater Bengaluru Area (GBA), the three mainstream parties face a tough electoral fight against new entrants and fresh faces.

The GBA currently remains the same size as the now-dissolved Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

The government had earlier proposed 500 wards, but settled on increasing the number by 170 despite pressure from former councillors.

As per the latest figures, most wards across four corporations will have around 40,000 residents, though the voter count may be lower.

BBMP is now five corporations



Total number stands at **368**

In the Bengaluru East City Corporation, each ward may have only 26,000 people. Official ward-wise population figures are yet to be released.

The number of votes required to win could fall between 5,000 and 10,000.

Traditionally, contests in the BBMP were dominated by the BJP and Congress, with JD(S) playing kingmaker. Now, the Aam Aadmi Party, Karnataka Rashtra Samithi, Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party, and the Social Democratic Party of India are expected to add to the competition.

THE FINE PRINT

Corporations	2011 census	2023 population	Average ward size
Bengaluru Central	15 lakh	25 lakh	39,682
Bengaluru East	9 lakh	13 lakh	26,000
Bengaluru West	26 lakh	45 lakh	40,540
Bengaluru North	18 lakh	31 lakh	43,055
Bengaluru South	17 lakh	30 lakh	41,666

Frequent changes

Frequent changes to the ward structure — the third in the last four years — have created confusion.

The government revised ward numbers from 198 to 225 in 2022, then to 243 in 2023, though the BBMP functioned on the old 198-ward model. Engineers and citizens were left perplexed as numbers kept shifting.

However, the new delimitation is expected to ease the burden in areas like Mahadevapura and KR Puram, where some wards had population close to 1 lakh, making administration and development difficult.

Raise objections by Oct 15

Citizens and political parties can submit objections or suggestions to the draft delimitation of wards, which fall under the Greater Bengaluru Area, within 15 days.

Submissions must be made to the Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department, Room No 436, 4th Floor, Vikasa Soudha, Bengaluru-560001, by 5 pm on October 15.

"The objections/suggestions received within the stipulated period will be considered and action will be taken to finalise the ward-wise delimitation," the notification said.

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FB friend dupes woman; threatens to leak pvt videos

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 32-year-old woman has accused a Facebook acquaintance of cheating her of Rs 8.62 lakh, besides threatening, intimidating, and assaulting her when she demanded repayment.

In her FIR, Sridevi G, a resident of Banashankari, said she befriended the suspect, Swaroop Gowda, in 2022. He initially sought Rs 4.4 lakh in instalments through PhonePe, citing a pending court case.

She alleged that Swaroop later demanded more money, threatening to share her private videos with her husband.

Out of fear, she pawned her jewellery and gave him another Rs 4.2 lakh.

Recently, near the Sunkadakatte bus stop, Swaroop allegedly assaulted her, kicking and dragging her while hurling abuses.

His associate, Giri, later confronted her in Basaveshwaranagar, warning her not to pursue the case and threatening to upload the videos online.

The Kamakshipalya police have registered a case against Swaroop and Giri under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) for cheating, extortion, assault and criminal intimidation. The police said further investigations are underway to trace the suspects.

Guidelines for Gandhi Jayanti

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bengaluru police commissioner has issued guidelines for Gandhi Jayanti on Thursday, permitting rallies and public programmes under strict conditions to ensure peace and order.

The Deputy Commissioners of Police (Law and Order), Assistant Commissioners of Police, and jurisdictional inspectors have been instructed to enforce compliance with these conditions.

Permissions cover only peaceful programmes.

Permissions have been granted for programmes at Freedom Park, Town Hall, and the Gandhi Statue on MG Road. Events are permitted from 12 am to 12 pm.

Bescom bill based on average use

BENGALURU, DHNS: City residents will receive power bills this month based on average consumption over the last three months, as Bescom upgrades its billing system.

The IT department is carrying out the upgrade to improve efficiency, and meter readers will not conduct physical readings between October 1 and 15.

"During this period, bills will be generated using the average of the last three months' consumption. Consumers can continue to pay their bills through the Bescom Mitra app, UPI apps, or at their respective sub-division offices," the statement read. Bescom clarified that the change will not affect Guha Jyothi beneficiaries.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

71st Wildlife Week-2025: CM Siddaramaiah to attend; Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha; 11 am.

Gandhi Jayanti, World Day of Non-Violence: HK Patil to attend; Goodwill Walk from Anandrao Circle to Gandhi Bhavan at 9 am; Gandhi Bhavan, Kumarakrupa Road; 11 am.

Gandhi Jayanti celebrations: Center for Mahatma Gandhi Studies, Bangalore City University; Jnanjyoti Hall, Central College Campus; 9 am.

RELIGIOUS

Navratri Utsav: Raghavendra Swami Mutt, Rajarajeshwari Nagar; 6 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with light rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	29.0°C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	--
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	71%
Sunset (Oct 1)	6:11 pm
Sunrise (Oct 2)	6:09 am
Moonrise	1:00 pm
Moonset	--:--

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

16-year-old girl forced into marriage; Ashoknagar police register case

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Ashoknagar police have registered a case after a 16-year-old girl was allegedly married off at a masjid in Anepalya on September 26.

The FIR was filed on September 28 after Pundalik, a government official, lodged a complaint with child helpline 1098. He alleged that the girl was forced into marriage by her parents, under the watch of masjid members.

When officials visited the masjid the following day, they were told no child marriage had taken place, though the girl had been wed under Islamic customs. The same day, the helpline received photographs and videos of the alleged marriage. The police booked the case under relevant sections of the Child Marriage Restraint Act.

Complaint to police chiefs

In a separate complaint, advocate Hussain Owais S wrote to DG&IGP MA Saleem and Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh, stating the nikah ceremony was performed by Mir Kaim, a suspected Waqf Board member. He also named Sujat Ali, Hasan Raza, and Azan Jafari.

"It has come to my knowledge from the general public that the girl may be pregnant, which can be confirmed only after a proper medical examination. Under the Pocso Act, any sexual relationship with the girl, despite marriage, would amount to statutory rape," he wrote.

Doddaballapur police arrest burglary gang using AirPods case tracker

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Doddaballapur police arrested a four-member gang, including a woman, suspected of two-house break-ins, recovering gold ornaments worth Rs 2.05 lakh.

The gang, operating from a rented house in Kudlu, was caught within hours of the second burglary after the police tracked real-time a stolen AirPods case taken with the jewellery.

The police said the gang targeted two houses in Palana Jogihalli.

The first theft, between the night of September 16 and morning of September 17, saw 113 grams of gold stolen from Divya Sri's house.

The second theft, on September 21, involved 7.5 grams of gold earrings from Bhavya C's house.

Cases were registered under sections 305 (theft in a dwelling house) and 331(4) (house-breaking by night with intent to commit a crime) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

The breakthrough came when the stolen AirPods case was tracked through the 'Find My Device' feature.

"We were able to locate and catch the suspects in an apartment in real-time within four to five hours of the FIR," said CK Baba, Bangalore Rural SP.

The arrested, Purushottam M, 22, Darshan, 20, Chandru, 24, and Saubhagya BH, 24, were sent to the Central Jail.

Mudslide at construction site kills two workers; 1 injured

BENGALURU, DHNS: Two labourers died and another was injured in a mudslide at an underconstruction building site near Madiwala on Tuesday evening.

The victims were identified as Razauddin (33) and Lal Mudin (32). Their colleague Safaul, 28, sustained injuries and is recovering in hospital. All three were from Jharkhand.

The police said the incident occurred around 7 pm when the workers were engaged in foundation-laying work. Fire and emergency services officials said the three were trapped after the mudslide.

Four fire tenders, firefighters, police personnel and senior officers rushed to the spot. The bodies were recovered later in the evening.

The Madiwala police have launched a probe into the incident.

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TECHIES' CHOICE

With ORR companies scrapping WFH, employees opt for carpooling

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

With several firms scrapping work-from-home and hybrid models, workers from Outer Ring Road (ORR) companies turn to carpooling.

While some companies returned to full-time office in September, more are set to follow through October.

Quick Ride, a taxi and carpooling platform, said nearly half its 25,000 daily carpool rides originate from ORR and nearby areas.

"About two weeks ago, we carried out a carpooling campaign at Intel to inform employees how the feature works. While we have a main network for carpooling spread across the city, some sub-networks can be customised based on the company and gender preferences. If someone would like to only carpool with the people who work at the same office as them, that can be specified," said KNM Rao, founder and CEO of Quick Ride. He added that the government's push towards carpooling could help ease congestion.

Carpooling involves private car users sharing rides with others travelling in the same direction.

Traffic congestion on the Outer Ring Road. FILE PHOTO

Industry insiders said the model is gaining traction among women commuters, particularly in the evenings, as it is considered safer and more economical.

Kruthika, 29, an engineer from Bellandur, prefers carpooling while returning home. "No time constraints (while returning). It is cheaper. We are all going to end up stuck in the ORR traffic anyway, so might as well save some money," she said.

Others form their own carpool groups.

"Some of my colleagues have come up with this plan. When we saw the news about the potential congestion tax, it just made more sense to carpool. I believe the congestion tax will push more people to choose this eco-friendly option," said Kavish, an engineer.

Long-distance travel

Ride-hailing platform QuicReach, offering shared cabs for long-distance travel, sees rising demand along ORR. "About 60% of our daily rides come from East Bengaluru, and recently, more passengers have been enquiring whether we do office pick and drops. We will plan on expanding our services based on the demand," said founder Shubham Jain.

Student's death ignites debate on pothole perils

BENGALURU, DHNS

The arrest of a tipper lorry driver, who allegedly ran over 22-year-old Dhanashree on Monday, has reignited public anger over the city's pothole-ridden roads and reckless heavy vehicle driving.

The police said an FIR was filed under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the Motor Vehicles Act for causing death by negligence and fleeing the spot.

Dhanashree's death has once again raised questions about why dangerous potholes remain unattended and why garbage truck drivers are not held accountable.

Daily commuters, particularly two-wheeler riders, expressed frustration over crumbling infrastructure.

"Every day, it is a gamble. We have to look out for potholes, for sudden lane changes, and for these huge lorries. We are constantly in danger," said Ramesh K, an auto driver near Orion Mall.

> **RAMESH K, Auto driver**
> "Every day, it is a gamble. We have to look out for potholes, for sudden lane changes, and for these huge lorries. We are constantly in danger.

"When it rains, the pothole is completely hidden. It can be fatal. I have a family to feed, but who guarantees my safety on the road? It has been three to four months they have excavated the roads like mines just to install some pipes, and the dust pollution is unbearable," he added.

Kiran Jeevan, a professor who has filed a lawsuit against the BBMP for damages caused by pothole-ridden roads, said the issue is a continuing health hazard. "

I filed a legal notice with the BBMP in May, but I have not received any compensation. The bad roads caused me significant health issues, particularly with my neck.

"Every pothole in Bengaluru poses a potential health hazard for its residents. Even small potholes can be problematic due to the risk factors involved while travelling," Jeevan told *DH*.

DyCM claims 13,000 potholes filled, action plan in place

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday said that all five city corporations together have filled 13,000 potholes, and an action plan is being drawn up to develop 550 km of roads at a cost of Rs 1,100 crore.

Shivakumar

"Photos and videos have been taken of each pothole being filled. You (the media) can also check," said Shivakumar, who also holds the Bangalore Urban Development portfolio, after inspecting roadworks in the city.

"No city minister in the country has ever called on the public to report potholes. But I have prepared a separate app for this, and potholes are being filled in cooperation with the police. Such an effort has been made only in Karnataka," he said.

Shivakumar also directed officers to use CCTV footage to identify those dumping garbage on the roads and footpaths at night.

Newly tarred road in Whitefield crumbles within two days

SHRADDHA AK
BENGALURU, DHNS

The freshly repaired stretch of Channasandra Main Road in Whitefield began peeling within two days, exposing potholes and crippling traffic between the signal and T-Cross, leading towards Thirumalashettyhally.

Residents said the road had been deteriorating for seven months despite repeated complaints. A leaking roadside drain worsens the problem, causing waterlogging during rains and traffic jams lasting at least 45 minutes.

"If you use this road when it rains, you can get a full night's rest waiting for your vehicle to move," said Akshay M, who runs a small eatery nearby. "The potholes fill with water, so two-wheelers skid and everyone drives slower."

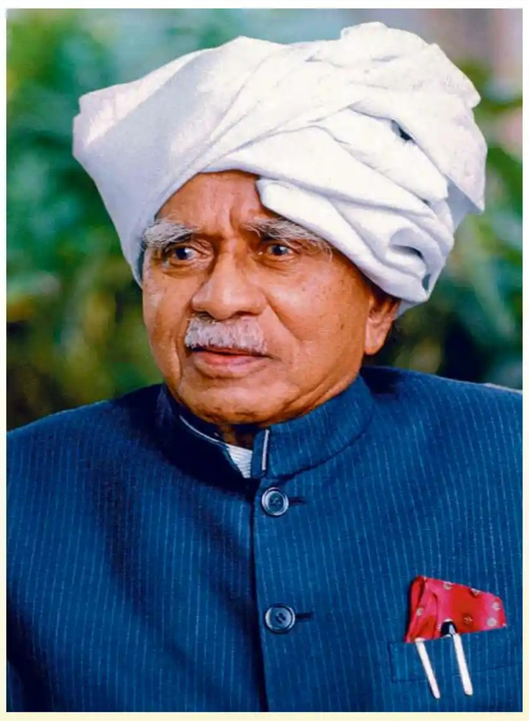
The stretch lacks traffic signals and police presence at the T-junction, where vehicles cut across haphazardly. Construction on both sides adds to congestion, leaving no footpaths and further damaging the road.

On August 27, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) used hot-mix asphalt to fill major potholes near the T-junction. But by Monday evening, the patch had given way, with sewage seeping through, raising questions about the quality of work.

M Lokesh, Chief Engineer (Zone-1), GBA East, said repairs were delayed due to a drain leak. "Once the BWSSB confirmed the leak was fixed, we proceeded with the repairs. The work met all standards and protocols," he said. "The pothole has reappeared due to another leak."

BWSSB Executive Engineer Venugopal said, "It most likely has to do with an underground water line and not sewage. A pipe burst beneath the road may have caused the seepage. We will inspect it on Wednesday and fix it at the earliest."

In Fond Memory of



Sri K. N. GURUSWAMY
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1901- 1990
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K N Tilak Kumar

RR Nagar commuters struggle on cratered roads

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Navigating the deep potholes of Rajarajeshwari Nagar has become a daily ordeal for commuters, especially two-wheeler riders, delivery workers, and auto drivers.

At the entrance to the area, a large pothole filled with cement and sand poses fresh dangers. "Earlier, the pothole was the problem, now the cement and sand are spread around the pothole and my vehicle skids when it rains. They could have left it open without doing anything, rather than doing shoddy work," said Sagar, a food delivery partner.

A patchwork of tar laid a year ago has worn out, leaving uneven stretches.

The road surface does not extend to the footpath, worsening the challenge for two-wheelers. "Feels like we are on vibration mode when we are riding through these roads. I do not understand how a corporation can be this irresponsible," said Abhimanyu, a commuter.

On Kenchanahalli Main Road near the BDA Complex, leaking drains and poorly maintained manholes have turned the junction into a blackspot. "The constant water overflow and poor maintenance of the manhole by the BWSSB has turned this junction into a blackspot," said a business owner, adding that a permanent fix is long overdue.

Dr Arunachalam Road in Rajarajeshwari Nagar is in need of urgent repairs. DH PHOTOS/PUSHKAR V

Drain leaks worsen potholes on Kenchanahalli Main Road.

Delivery workers said the poor roads cause severe neck, back and shoulder pain by the end of the day.

Meanwhile, white-topping on Jawaharlal Nehru Road in BEML Layout has dragged on for more than 18 months. "People are already inconvenienced due to white-topping, and cross roads that we are forced to take are also not well-maintained," said Satish Kumar, a resident of BEML Layout 5th Stage.

A similar situation is unfolding in Uttarahalli.

The recently asphalted Uttarahalli-Kengeri Road has already developed bumps and uneven surfaces. "No matter what anyone says or how many people die, the roads in the city will continue to remain like this," said Ramachandra, a shop vendor.

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These families have been keeping gombe for generations

In their collections are dolls depicting Mysuru Dasara, royal couples, pooja articles and scenes from Hindu epics

TEAM METROLIFE

Inspired by Wodeyars

Sudarshan N, whose family hails from Domlur village, shares that they have been keeping the tradition alive for over four generations. "My great-grandfather's father worked for the Wodeyars and he picked up this tradition from them," says the 29-year-old entrepreneur. His great grandparents lived in a house shared by five families and the gombe tradition was always the highlight of the season.

Traditionally a new set of dolls are added to the collection every year. Sudarshan's display currently has 400 dolls and they depict scenes such as the Mysuru Dasara featuring miniature replicas of the palace, Mysuru circle and Chamundi devi. The display also includes scenes depicting markets, grocery stores, poets and freedom fighters. The wooden couple dolls — Raja-Rani — remain the focus.

120-year-old porcelain, silver articles

The dolls in Padma Udayakumar's collection have been passed down through two generations. Around 500 dolls are displayed in her living room this season, about 30 of which are heirloom pieces that belonged to her maternal grandmother. The display

Padma Udayakumar's display includes four pairs of 'pattada gombe', which includes one passed down by her grandmother.

includes four pairs of 'pattada gombe': one passed down by her grandmother, one gifted by her mother and another by her mother-in-law, and one bought by Padma herself.

"The display also includes around 15 silver articles, which are encased in glass," says Padma. These include miniatures of pooja items such as a panchapatra (sacred vessel), a kajal box, a flower basket, and betel leaf with two bananas.

Alongside these are about 10 porcelain dolls depicting cows with their calves, which also belonged to her grandmother. "All the heirloom dolls, which are over 120 years old, are stored in an almirah," she adds.

Padma Udayakumar

Glassware, sandalwood pieces

Nandini R grew up in a family that displayed gombe during Navratri and married into one that upheld the same tradition. Today, the Banashankari resident has about 40 heirloom dolls from both sides of the family, along with more than 50 she has collected herself. The oldest in her collection is a dancing doll made from mud. "My daughter is 16 and just as interested in gombe (display)," says the product architect. From her mother, Nandini inherited Channapatna pieces depicting village life, such as vegetable vendors and a woman carrying a pot of water. From her mother-in-law, she received more Channapatna work besides porcelain figurines.

She also has glassware and sandalwood pieces. Among the oldest heirlooms is a pair of clay birds belonging to her husband's great-grandparents, believed to be more than 60 years old. "This year, I added a Dashavatara set in a black-stone finish, the Akshaya Patra scene, and one more depicting Krishna's birth," she says.

POPCORN

Say sneeze...

So Bengaluru won't have a congestion tax, our deputy chief minister has just said. Some experts have been recommending it, citing the example of London and Singapore. They penalise single-occupant cars driving into the central business districts of those cities. Agreed, Bengaluru is not as bad as Delhi, but some of our folks are already paying a steep price for the smoke and pollution, no? They have runny and ticklish noses, and are always going to the doc complaining of congestion in the chest. That's a hidden congestion tax that no one is talking about. Alvenri? Achoo!

'Concerts alone are not enough for a livelihood'

Karnatik vocalist T M Krishna recently posted about the 'precarious state' of his profession on Instagram

TEAM METROLIFE

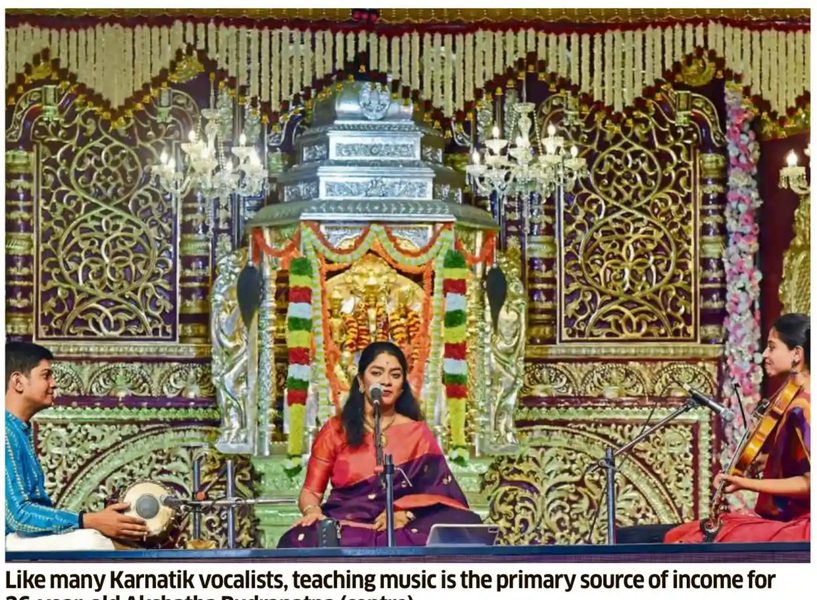
Platforms and opportunities for Karnatik classical musicians have increased in recent years, but making a living only from concerts is still a distant dream, many say.

Well-known singer T M Krishna recently said it was nearly impossible for an artiste to survive on performances alone.

Up-and-coming musicians now have to teach, conduct workshops, network for opportunities, and take up ancillary jobs when they should be devoted to honing their craft and building repertoire, he posted on social media.

Senior vocalist and guru R K Padmanabha, who lives and teaches in J P Nagar, says full-time classical music careers were rare even in the past, and today about 40% of his students have taken the plunge.

For 26-year-old Akshatha Rudrapatna, his student, teaching is essential; she gets two or three concerts a month. Classes at a Bengaluru school and online sessions with students, including some from Australia, make up 70% of her earnings.



Like many Karnatik vocalists, teaching music is the primary source of income for 26-year-old Akshatha Rudrapatna (centre).

Krishna had suggested musicians look abroad for students who can pay more, but Akshatha says Indian students abroad are more serious. "And given the time difference, morning classes leave the rest of the day for my own practice," she says.

Young vocalists earn Rs 5,000-Rs7,000 for a concert in Bengaluru, she says. But a mridangam artiste with more than 20 years' experience says he makes only between Rs 2,000 and Rs 5,000. "I work in IT to sustain myself," he says.

Vocalist M S Deepak, 36, also depends on teaching for 80% of his income. After an initiative by Karnataka Ganakala Parishat, fees have improved, he says. Lead artistes now get Rs 12,000-Rs 15,000 for a concert, while accompanists earn about Rs 8,000 each.

Manasi Prasad, vocalist, agrees that concert fees have not kept pace with inflation. Besides performing, she teaches at universities and consults in the arts sector. "Today, every artiste must be an entrepreneur and bring all their skills to the table. It is a profession like any other," she explains.

But teaching brings its own pressures. Padmanabha points out teachers end up accepting all students, irrespective of whether they have the interest or potential. "That can be unsatisfying," he says.

Deepak adds that four to five hours of teaching daily leaves the voice strained, leaving little energy for the artiste's own practice. "Performing is like writing an exam. We have to give our best each time. Audiences don't excuse a tired voice," he says.

Visibility has become as important as talent. Akshatha says some organisers now prefer artistes with a strong social media presence, sometimes prioritising popularity over merit. This trend, she fears, reduces the space for chaste concerts. Some artistes now produce reels, hire social media teams, and branch out into fusion and playback to stay relevant, she observes.

The pressure is not unique to Karnatik music. Murali Mohan Gowda, a rudra veena player in the dhrupad tradition, says audiences have thinned after the pandemic. "Organisers prefer artistes who are known faces online," he says. At 42, he now shoots and edits his own performances, though he admits promoting classical music in short-format videos is not always practical. "Cutting a clip of 10-15 seconds of alaap just won't do justice to it," he explains.

Live-in ties must be legalised: experts

Recently a Bengaluru woman filed a case against her live-in partner for not marrying her

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION

A 33-year-old Bengaluru woman has filed a complaint against her live-in partner for not fulfilling his promise of marrying her. The incident has raised questions about the legal rights of live-in partners.

While there is no legal framework for such relationships, Article 21 of the Indian Constitution "guarantees the right to life and personal liberty which has now been extended to consenting adults living together without tying the knot," says advocate Indra Dhanush.

Women in such relationships can seek protection under Section 2(f) of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and maintenance under Section 144 (1) (a) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita. "Courts have also considered children born from such relationships as legitimate children with rights to inheritance," he adds.

Common among migrants

Dhanush and other advocates share that they have witnessed a sharp increase in cases pertaining to live-in relationships in the last decade. In most cases, the clients are migrants, whose families do not reside in Bengaluru. "Usually the women feel cheated because they enter into a relationship after the man promises marriage. When the man backs out, they file a criminal complaint under Section 69 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). It criminalises sexual intercourse by deceitful means, including false promise of marriage," he explains.

Dhanush has also taken on cases of domestic violence, maintenance, child custody, inheritance, cheating and rape for clients in live-in relationships.

Call for legal framework

Roshini Muthukumar, a 29-year-old communications professional, was in a live-in relationship with her then-boyfriend Navin Kumar for two years before they got married in 2024. Though they did not face too many problems during the two-year period, they always felt uncertain of the future and hence put off investing in larger purchases as a couple. "Because there is no legal framework specifically for live-in relationships, we were not sure what the future would bring. Buying a car, property or even large appliances was out of the question," Roshini shares, adding that a law that recognises such relationships, such as 'civil union' or 'domestic partnership' in other countries, is much needed in India. The law gives the partner legal rights such as hospital visitation and right of survivorship.

More often than not, the parents of the couple are unaware of their arrangement. This contributes to anxiety, insecurity and other mental health issues, therapists say. Counsellor Sunil John says that 60-70% of his clients are in live-in relationships and enjoy the freedom it gives them. "It is so common and I think it should be normalised," John states.

Psychotherapist, Kala Balasubramanian, says, in her experience, couples in live-in relationships typically fall under two categories — those who want to try out living together before deciding to tie the knot, and those who start living together with no intentions of getting married. "In the case of the former, things tend to go sour when one person checks out. Though they come for therapy there is no resolution," she says.

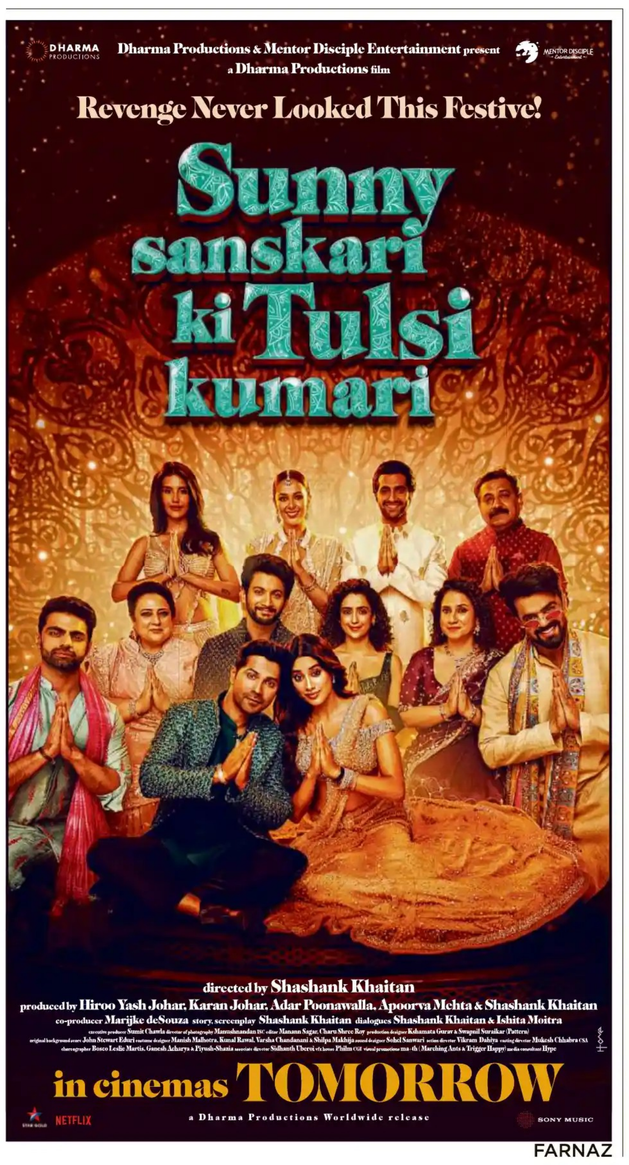
However, most often, the couples in therapy are willing to work through the relationship and usually, their problems are sorted out. However, the lack of a legal framework is a major challenge, she notes.

EVENTS

Music
Swarna Foundation and Academy of Music is hosting Gandhi Smruthi Sangeethotsava on October 3, 5 pm at Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval. Entry free.

Dance
Bharata Kalanjali will perform 'Gandhi: A Dance Through Truth and Transformation', choreographed by C P Satyajit on October 2, 7 pm at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. Entry free, RSVP mandatory. Visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

Art show
Art Houz presents 'The Chimeric Concoction', a solo show by artist Aparna Rajapandian, at the gallery's premises on Palace Road, Vasanthnagar, from October 3-5. It is a fundraiser for Charlie's Animal Rescue Centre. Entry free.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FARNAZ

Potholes drive up back problems

TINI SARA ANIEN
TEAM METROLIFE

Potholes and broken roads are landing commuters at the hospital, doctors say.

Lower back pain among IT professionals has surged, says Dr Amit Agarwal, chief orthopaedic surgeon in Indiranagar. "In 3-4 months, cases have almost tripled — over 150 a month compared to 50-75 earlier. Many return repeatedly as their daily commute worsens the problem," he added.

Dr Ravikumar T V, consultant-orthopedics at a hospital in M S Ramaiah Nagar, noted wrist pain among two-wheeler riders is also rising due to sudden braking.

Dr Hariprakash Chakravarthy, neurosurgeon in Yeshwanthpur, said pothole-related injuries spike every rainy season. "Since May, severe head injuries have tripled." In addition to wrist pain, other musculoskeletal complaints have also doubled recently, observed Dr Chandil Gunashekar, general physician in Whitefield.

Doctors say several aches such as wrist pain are rising among two-wheeler riders due to sudden braking.
DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

Dr Satish Rudrappa, a neurosurgeon, recalled an elderly woman fracturing her thoracic spine after her car went over a waterlogged pothole.

He added: "I had to operate because bone healing doesn't happen at that age."

City doctors report rising complaints among patients aged 25-45. Those in their 30s and 40s, commuting 2-3 hours daily along stretches like the Outer Ring Road and Mahadevapura, increasingly complain of stiffness, muscle spasms, and even "a jerking sensation" while riding. "Some also describe radiating pain from the back to the legs or from the neck downward, triggered by sudden jolts," said Dr Gunashekar.

Most of the patients Dr Agarwal sees live in the IT corridor around Marathahalli, Gunjur, Panathur, and Balagere. He said: "A 10-minute, three-kilometre commute can take over an hour on these roads, and it shows on the spine." Many IT professionals between ages 35 and 45 come with severe neck spasms, shoulder pain, and pain between the shoulder blades. Navigating potholes daily worsens pre-existing conditions. "Patients with mild chronic back pain are now developing shooting root pains," Dr Rudrappa said, adding that the bulk of his cases come from IT corridors such as Whitefield, Varthur and Sarjapur.

Symphony Orchestra at Ranga Shankara

The Symphony Orchestra of India (SOI) will take the stage at Ranga Shankara, J P Nagar, on October 3 and 4 at 7.30 pm.

The SOI Chamber Orchestra will perform music with Baroque, Romantic, and folk influences. The orchestra will perform Vivaldi's 'Concerto for Strings', Haydn's 'Cello Concerto No. 1 in C', Beliczay's 'Serenade for Strings', Strauss's 'Egyptian March', Iturralde's 'Memorias', and Brahms' 'Hungarian Dances Nos. 1 & 5', among others.

The Orchestra will also present 'Once upon a tune', a performance geared towards children on October 4 at 11 am.

The SOI was founded in 2006 by Khushroo N Suntook and Marat Bisengaliev.

Tickets available online and at Ranga Shankara.

Kannada microseries aims to promote reading

The series stars actors Teju Belawadi and Aashith

PRANATI A S
TEAM METROLIFE

A group of young filmmakers has collaborated with the Bookworm bookstore on Church Street for a vertical metropolitan series. Called 'Inbetween the Lines', the microseries aims to promote reading culture among youngsters.

"Bookstores are slowly becoming extinct. We at Flying Dose Films (the production company) wanted to do something to promote the culture of bookstores and community reading among the younger generation," its director Madan Kumar tells *Metrolife*.

Instead of a documentary approach, he decided to choose the vertical micro series format — which has a story and characters that people can connect to easily. Through the series, Madan highlights various aspects of books and bookstores. It captures the joy of book reading sessions, book clubs, old and rare books and finding old notes belonging to previous owners in second-hand books.

Madan has also explored Bookworm's antiquarian section, which has old and rare books. It was launched last year.

"Most people order books online, but what you find in a bookstore is a community," says Madan. Earlier, he had worked as the creative director for a documentary on Bookworm's proprietor Krishna Gowda and his journey. "At a time when there is content available all around us, we wanted to communicate the magic of books to the younger generation," he adds.

'Inbetween the Lines' stars Teju Belawadi who plays Tara — an old school bibliophile — and Aashith plays Dhruva, who represents the younger generation that sees the world through social media. To impress Tara, Dhruva starts visiting the bookstore everyday. The first 15 episodes are available on their Instagram page. Thirteen more will be added over the next few weeks.

Since the series took off on Instagram, Gowda has been receiving queries about book clubs, mainly from the younger generation. Madan plans to collaborate with other spaces in south Bengaluru for the second season of 'It's Not Working Out'.

Watch 'Inbetween the Lines' on Instagram/flying.dose.films

Aashith and Teju Belawadi play the lead characters.

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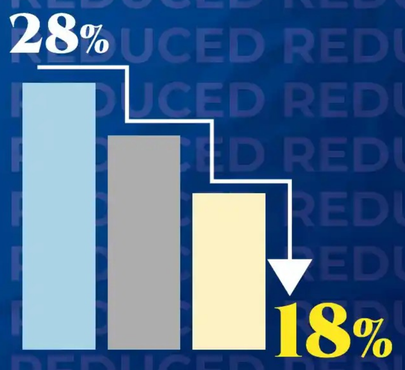

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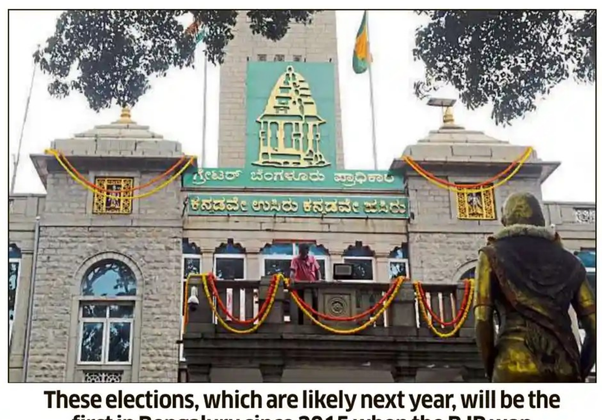
GBA polls: Task cut out for Cong to loosen BJP's urban hold

6 ministers to lead Cong charge; BJP to highlight 'crumbling infra'



These elections, which are likely next year, will be the first in Bengaluru since 2015 when the BJP won 100 out of 198 wards of the erstwhile BBMP.

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Congress is looking to break the BJP's hold over the city with the ruling party having started preparations to face elections to five municipal corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

These elections, which are likely next year, will be the first in Bengaluru since 2015 when the BJP won 100 out of 198 wards of the erstwhile BBMP.

The BJP has maintained an upper hand in Bengaluru. It won 16 out of 28 Assembly seats in 2023 and all three Lok Sabha segments last year.

Congress general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala has already held talks with party leaders on identifying candidates.

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, the minister in charge of Bengaluru, has deputed six ministers - Krishna Byre Gowda (Bengaluru East), B S Suresha (Byrathi) (Bengaluru West), K J George (Bengaluru North), Ramalinga Reddy (Bengaluru South), Dinesh Gundu Rao and Zameer Ahmed Khan (Bengaluru Central) - to oversee the party's preparedness.

"In every ward, we have up to 10 ticket aspirants," government chief whip Saleem Ahmed, incharge of the Mahalakshmi Layout constituency, told *DH*.

"Our government's performance and the five 'guarantee' schemes will be most important. People are happy. We're doing our best for the city's development despite non-cooperation from the union government," he said.

Sources said Shivakumar is planning to fix Rs 1 lakh as application fees for ticket aspirants.

This is to ensure only serious candidates apply, a practice he started with the 2023 Assembly polls.

The Opposition BJP has chalked out its own plan to face the GBA polls. A meeting was held recently with BJP national general secretary Dr Radha Mohan Das Agrawal.

"We've had preliminary meetings. Constituency-wise teams will be formed in the days to come," BJP state president B Y Vijayendra told *DH*.

The saffron party is planning to woo voters by highlighting the city's crumbling infrastructure under the Congress government.

"Our campaign will be centered around 'Dubari Bengaluru' where everything, except air, is taxed while infrastructure is zero," BJP's Bengaluru North president S Harish, a former deputy mayor, said.

Leopard cubs found in a sugarcane field. DH PHOTO

Leopard cubs rescued from sugarcane field

HANUR (CHAMARAJANAGAR DIST), DHNS: Two leopard cubs were found in a sugarcane field when labourers came for harvesting at Basappanadoddi village in Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district on Tuesday.

The Forest department personnel visited the spot and rescued the leopard cubs. Bannur buffer zone forest officer Nagaraju took the cubs into custody.

A decision on whether to release them into the forest or to send them to the zoo, will be taken after discussing with the higher officers, Nagaraju said.

There are possibilities of the mother leopard returning to the spot, where it had littered the cubs.

Hence, the Forest department has cautioned the villagers and the land owner to be careful and to alert the department, if they spot any movement of the leopard.

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Crimes on women up by 40% in 2 years, shows NCRB data

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS:

Crimes against women in Karnataka increased by nearly 40% between 2021 and 2023, according to data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). In 2023, as many as 20,336 such cases were reported from the state.

Assault with intent to outrage the modesty of a woman, dowry cases, cruelty by husband or his relatives and abduction were among the major categories of cases registered.

The police and activists opined that an increase in awareness had resulted in an increase in reporting of such cases and hence, the numbers have increased.

Awareness boosts reporting, but conviction rate remains poor

"More women are now coming forward to file cases since we are also supporting them and building confidence. We also ensure that action is initiated soon," a senior police official said.

However, a large number of cases are pending trial at various courts. Close to 72,000 cases are pending at various courts from the previous years, the data showed and another 16,000 were added for trial in 2023. Even among those disposed of by courts in 2023, close to 92% are acquittals.

Activists working closely with the victims said that there was a need to strengthen the entire system and provide strong legal support to women in such cases.

"It has to start from the investigating officer. In many cases, officials fail to collect all required evidence since many of them do not take such cases seriously. In many other cases, public prosecutors do not work with conviction and commitment, leading to acquittals. There is a need to sensitise people at all levels," said K S Vimala of Janavaadi Mahila Sanghatane.

Caste census: Over 15L houses enumerated on 9th day

BENGALURU, DHNS: Around 57 lakh households (2.16 crore persons) have been enumerated across the state at the end of nine days of the ongoing social and educational survey.

On Tuesday, 15.57 lakh households were enumerated.

As per estimates, there are 1.43 crore households in the state. Around 86 lakh households will now have to be surveyed in the remaining seven days.

Hit by technical glitches and administrative issues in the beginning, the survey was off to a slow start. However, the enumeration has picked up after Friday.

Crime against senior citizens rose by 41.7% in Bengaluru in 2023

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru has seen 41.7% rise in crimes against senior citizens, and accounted for 35% of the total crimes against the elderly in Karnataka, as per the recently released National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data for 2023.

According to the data, Karnataka reported 1,840 cases of crime against the senior citizens (aged 60 and above) in 2023, with 649 cases occurring in Bengaluru alone. Overall, the city saw 41.7% rise in crime against the elderly between 2022 and 2023. In 2022, Karnataka saw 1,583 crimes of this nature, while 459 of them occurred in Bengaluru.

Of the 649 crimes, cases of forgery, fraud and cheating ranked the highest at 264. Of the 264 cases, most were of cheating.

Apart from this, there were 140 cases of simple hurt, 17 cases of murder, 8 - attempt to murder, 4 - grievous hurt, 22 - assault on women with the attempt to outrage her modesty, 17 - thefts, 56 - robbery, 5 - extortion, 51 - criminal trespass, 23 - criminal intimidation, and one case each of kidnapping and abduction, and attempt to commit culpable homicide, among 46 other crimes.

As per the report, in 2023, the city reported no cases of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, rape and dacoity against the senior citizens.

Taking these crimes into account, Bengaluru saw a charge-sheeting rate of 64.1%.

The report also stated that 1,334 court cases of crimes against the elderly were currently pending for trial in Bengaluru.

B'luru second among 7 metros in med negligence cases

'Many cases go unreported as people have no knowledge on legal options'

BENGALURU, DHNS

A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER

"At private facilities, there is a system in place and staff to specially look into such complaints. Even if there is a medical negligence case, it is settled without being reported. They also have a strong legal team to ensure that such cases are tackled.

Bengaluru is placed second among the only seven metropolitan cities which have recorded deaths due to medical negligence.

Three cases of medical negligence were reported from Bengaluru in 2023 and two cases were reported from other districts in the state.

Though only a few cases have been reported, citizens said the cases were under-reported and many cases at private facilities were brushed off without reporting.

"At private facilities, there is a system in place and staff to specially look into such complaints. Even if there is a medical negligence case, it is settled without being reported. They also have a strong legal team to ensure that such cases are tackled," a medical practitioner working with multiple private hospitals said.

He said most of the cases reported were from government facilities. Citizens, however, said there were many more cases going unreported even in government facilities.

"Many of them die outside the hospitals after they are denied treatment. They are sent off without any medication. A majority of the cases don't get reported since people who visit these facilities are unaware of the legal options available to fight such negligence," a healthcare professional said.

Three additional HC judges take oath

BENGALURU, DHNS: Three newly appointed judges of the Karnataka High Court took the oath of office on Tuesday.

Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru administered the oath to Geetha Kadaba Bharatharaja Setty, Muralidhara Pai Borkatte, and Tyagaraja Narayan Inavally at a ceremony held in the High Court.

All three new judges are from the district judges' cadre and have served as judicial officers across the state.

With these appointments, the strength of High Court judges has increased to 49 against a sanctioned strength of 62 judges.

Kannada director Rajendra Singh Babu duped of Rs 4.25 lakh

BENGALURU, DHNS: Veteran Kannada filmmaker S V Rajendra Singh Babu, known for films like *Muthina Haara*, has become the latest victim of a sophisticated cyber fraud and has lost Rs 4.25 lakh to unauthorised electronic withdrawals under the guise of finalising film dubbing rights.

The scam was orchestrated by individuals posing as agents interested in acquiring the Telugu dubbing rights for his upcoming film, *Rakta Kashmir*, which stars Upendra and Ramya.

To "process the deal" and build trust, the fraudsters requested his personal documents, including Aadhaar card, PAN,and bank details.

Babu said a distributor introduced him to a contact, Naveen Kumar, and they agreed on a Rs 1.4 crore deal. However, the agreement copy delivered via Blue Dart courier was blank. Police indicate that the personal details submitted were subsequently misused for unauthorised withdrawals.

After this, he lodged a complaint with Yeshwantpur police. Authorities registered a case under BNS sec 309 and initiated a probe & are tracing digital footprints to find the suspect.

FUN UNLIMITED

After days and nights of cultural extravaganza, Mysuru ready for fest finale

SHILPA P
MYSURU, DHNS

After a cultural extravaganza of 30 major events at 20 venues, the heritage city of Mysuru is all set for the Dasara Jamboo Savari procession on Thursday.

The grand finale, featuring 14 elephants, 61 cultural troupes and 58 tableaux from across Karnataka, depict various themes, mainly Mahatma Gandhi as it is happening on Gandhi Jayanti.

Curtains on this year's Dasara will be drawn with a torchlight parade at Bannimantap Grounds in the evening.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will inaugurate the procession by offering puja to Nandi Dhwaja at the North (Balarama) gate of the palace between 1 pm and 1.18 pm, during the auspicious Dhanur lagna.

He will offer floral tributes to the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari, placed in the 750-kg golden howdah carried by caparisoned elephant Abhimanyu, between 4.42 pm and 5.06 pm, during the auspicious Kumbha lagna.

Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot will participate in the torchlight parade at 7 pm.

Preparations were in full swing on Tuesday for the procession. Usually about 4 lakh people come to watch the Dasara procession. This year, 20% more attendance is expected mainly due to social media influence.

On the palace premises, there will be 48,000 seats to watch the procession for dignitaries and for those who have passes, gold cards and tickets. The seating capacity at Bannimantap grounds is around 40,000.

The Mysuru City Corporation has put up shelters and barricades on the footpaths on either side of the Jamboo Savari procession route for people to watch the spectacle, besides arranging drinking water for every 50 metres and temporary toilets on the Town Hall premises.

Mysuru police commissioner Seema Latkar said only pass holders are allowed to watch the procession on the palace premises and torchlight parade on Bannimantap grounds.

People should avoid climbing trees and dilapidated buildings to watch the procession, she said.

Police have installed additional CCTV cameras and are using drones to keep a vigil on the crowds. They are ready with measures to evacuate, shift and treat people in case of an emergency.

According to Mysuru Hotel Owners Association president C Narayana Gowda, there are about 10,500 rooms in 425 hotels of the city and all have recorded 100% occupancy since September 27. All rooms are 100% booked till October 2 and at least 30% of the tourists are from other states, he said.

The erstwhile royal family is all set for Ayudha Puja on Wednesday and Vijaya Yatre by Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar on Thursday.

Artists give final touches to a tableau taking part in the Jamboo Savari, on the APMC premises in Mysuru on Tuesday. DH PHOTOS/ANUP RAGHT

The seating arrangement on the palace premises in Mysuru.

No information on Cabinet reshuffle: DKS

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy CM D K Shivakumar on Tuesday said he has "no information" on a Cabinet reshuffle. "I don't have any information on that. Those who have information speak about it," he said. He was reacting to a statement by Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan that a Cabinet reshuffle would happen after November.

CM to be honoured at Lingayat event

BENGALURU, DHNS: More than 500 seers and over one lakh devotees are expected to participate in the valedictory of Basava Samskruthi Abhiyana in Bengaluru on October 5. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will be felicitated at the event for having declared Basavanna as the state's cultural leader and recommending to the union government grant of 'religious minority' status to Lingayat faith.

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I, DEEPA ANANTHAKRISHNA W/o ANANTHA KRISHNA have changed my name to DEEPA ANANTH vide affidavit dated: 29/9/2025 Before Notary Shreeshail B.Gobbani Bangalore.

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'Water is Future': Govt to launch water security campaign

525 GPs of 16 districts to be covered in first phase

Every gram panchayat will have its own water security plan as part of the ambitious statewide campaign.
DH FILE PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

BENGALURU, DHNS

Every gram panchayat will have its own water security plan as part of an ambitious statewide campaign that Karnataka is set to launch on water conservation and management.

The 'Water is Future' campaign "consolidates the state's most impactful water conservation and management efforts under a single, strategic mission of sustainable water governance", the minor irrigation department said, pointing out that Karnataka is India's second most arid state.

In the first phase, the campaign will cover 525 gram panchayats across 16 districts and 27 taluks where groundwater is "overexploited" and "critical".

"Every gram panchayat in the state will be assessed and categorised based on groundwater status. A state-wide ranking of all GPs as Critical (Red), Semi-Critical (Yellow) or Safe/Sustainable (Green) will be undertaken. This zonation is foundational for identifying areas that need urgent intervention," the minor irrigation department said in a note about the campaign.

"Building on this, a Master Atlas of Groundwater will be developed at the GP level - a geospatial database of wells, aquifers, recharge structures, and water bodies," it said.

Using the zonation data and the Master Atlas, localised groundwater action plans will be prepared for each gram panchayat. "These will recommend site-specific, scientifically validated solutions - such as constructing new recharge structures, installing rainwater harvesting systems, regulating extraction in critical zones, and adopting region-specific crop-water management strategies," the department said.

These water security plans will be presented and debated at a special 'Neeriddare Nale Gram Sabha' (Water Gram Sabha) held on World Water Day (March 22).

The government will also set up a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) at the Groundwater Directorate to coordinate the 'Water is Future' campaign.

"Groundwater is the invisible foundation of Karnataka's future. We're empowering gram panchayats and communities to take charge of their water security. Starting with the most stressed regions, this initiative will combine people's participation with technology-driven monitoring to restore balance between extraction and recharge," Minor Irrigation Minister N S Boseraju said.

Shivakumar denies plan to levy congestion tax

BENGALURU, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday denied reports of the government contemplating a peak-hour congestion tax in Bengaluru.

"It's false. There's no such proposal before me," said Shivakumar, who is also Minister for Bengaluru Urban Development.

The idea of levying a congestion tax, which is not new, was discussed at a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh last week to discuss the city's development. At that meeting, urban expert R K Mishra pushed for a congestion tax on single-occupant cars on the Outer Ring Road (ORR).

"Some industrialists have advised (levying congestion tax) in the interest of the city," Shivakumar said.

D K Shivakumar

Earlier in the day, Leader of Opposition R Ashoka described Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's administration as "Tughlaq government" for even thinking about congestion tax, which he said would not stand in court.

"First, repair the roads and everything will be fine. Without repairing the roads, they (government) want to tax people. Look at the situation we are in," Ashoka said. He also wondered if congestion tax would apply to cars of chief minister and his Cabinet colleagues if they travel alone.

Last year, a study commissioned by the government recommended levying a tax between Rs 100 and Rs 500 on private vehicles entering the city's central business district (CBD) during peak hours.

The study -- Environmental Problems and Congestion: Evolving Sustainable Solutions for Bengaluru's Development -- was carried out by experts at the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC).

Specifically, the study said private vehicles entering MG Road, Brigade Road and Dr Ambedkar Veedhi during peak hours in CBD may be charged Rs 100-500 as congestion tax.

"The toll may be collected using satellite or GPS-based Fastag. This strategy is not to be construed as revenue generation or preventing public from entering the particular road, but as a means to avoid unmanageable traffic during the peak hours and disincentivize the private vehicle use in these roads. This can be implemented on experimental basis on one road to test its effectiveness," the study recommended.

DKS dares HDK for public debate

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Tuesday urged his longtime rival and Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy to stop making "hit-and-run" style accusations and challenged him to a public debate.

"Kumaraswamy is doing 'hit and run' on me. Let the media facilitate an open debate; I am ready to take him on publicly," he told reporters. Responding to Kumaraswamy's claim that Shivakumar may go to jail soon, he said, "Kumaraswamy has been conspiring for a long time to send me to jail. I will respond to him after the festival."

Movie tickets: HC directs for refund mechanism

BENGALURU, DHNS:

A vacation bench of the high court on Tuesday modified the interim order passed by the single judge on Sept 23 on the operation of the Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules 2025, which caps movie ticket price at Rs 200 across the state.

A division bench comprising Justice Suraj Govindaraj and Justice Rajesh Rai K directed the Multiplex Association of India and other such entities to maintain accounts of all the tickets sold (excluding GST) and to submit a monthly statement to the licensing authority to refund money to consumers in case they fail in their challenge against the rule.

The vacation bench was hearing the appeals filed by Karnataka State Film Chamber of Commerce and others challenging the interim order passed by the single bench. The single bench had stayed the proviso to Rule 55 (6) to the Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules 2025 in a batch of petitions filed by the Multiplex Association of India and others.

The counsel appearing for the film chamber of commerce contended that a legislative policy cannot be stayed in an interim order. The division bench observed that the money collected during the pendency of the petitions would have played on the mind of the single judge.

After considering the submissions, the division bench passed the directions to protect the financial interests of all concerned, pending final adjudication of the writ appeal/petition. The bench directed all multiplexes operating under the association to maintain comprehensive and auditable records for every ticket sold. This includes date and time of sale, mode of booking (online or at physical counters), mode of payment (credit/debit card, UPI, net banking, or cash), and amount collected.

"In the event that the petitioners (multiplex association) fail in the final adjudication of this writ Appeal/Petition, all amounts collected through electronic means (excluding applicable GST) during the pendency of this litigation must be refunded to the individual consumers who booked the tickets, via the same payment method used for booking," the bench said.

Refund processing plan

The bench further said that the association shall submit a refund processing plan to the licensing authority for approval within 45 days, detailing the mechanism for refunds to be made to consumers. "The same on approval by licensing authority would have to be placed before this court for final approval," the bench said.

Insofar as cash-based ticket sales, the multiplexes must issue numbered, time-stamped receipts to consumers, the court said, directing the association to propose a mechanism to facilitate voluntary refund claims for consumers who paid in cash, subject to court approval upon final adjudication. The bench also said that the multiplexes shall submit monthly consolidated reports of ticket sales and amounts collected (both electronic and cash), along with a summary of GST remitted, to the licensing authority by the 15th of each succeeding month.

"In the event that any multiplex fails to comply with the directions set out in this order, particularly with respect to record maintenance or timely reporting, such multiplexes shall lose the benefit of the interim arrangement granted by this court," the court said.

The division bench has also directed the multiplexes to exhibit the summary of the order on the ticket booking portal, both online and physical counters. The same shall also be exhibited on-screen before each movie screening in all multiplexes for the duration of at least 30 seconds, in English and the regional language, the court said.

Village near Raichur boycotts census over poor network

RAICHUR, DHNS

Residents of Yatagal village in Maski taluk of the district have reportedly boycotted the caste census in protest against the poor mobile phone network coverage in the village. The poor connectivity has affected the census exercise as enumerators aren't able to properly access the designated app on their phones.

"First get the network problem fixed. Then you can undertake the survey," the people reportedly told the enumerators who came to their doors on Tuesday.

Maski tahsildar Manjunath Bhogavathi assured the protestors that a temporary camp would be set up wherever there is network coverage. Simultaneously, the network issues would be resolved, he promised them.

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ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು	ಸೇವಾ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಅಳ್ನಾವರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಅಳ್ನಾವರ ಪ್ರಾ.ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.32	25,000/–
2	ಧಾರವಾಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಅಣ್ಣಿಗೇರಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಅಣ್ಣಿಗೇರಿ ಪ್ರಾ.ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.57	25,000/–
3	ಗದಗ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಶಿರಹಟ್ಟಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಲಕ್ಮೇಶ್ವರ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ 20 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	2.65	25,000/–
4	ಹಾವೇರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಸವಣೂರು ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಸವಣೂರು ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	19.19	48,000/–
5	ಹಾವೇರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ & ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಗುತ್ತಲ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ 20 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	3.42	25,000/–
6	ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಹಳಿಯಾಳ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ದಾಂಡೇಲಿ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ 20 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	6.29	25,000/–
7	ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಭಟ್ಕಳ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಶಿರಾಳಿ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ 20 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	5.39	25,000/–
8	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಅಥಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ಎಮ್.ಸಿ.ಹೆಚ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ನೆಲಮಹಡಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	10.21	25,000/–
9	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಅಥಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 50–100 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ತಾಯಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	5.41	25,000/–
10	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕಿತ್ತೂರು ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು 100 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	21.85	44,000/–
11	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬೈಲಹೊಂಗಲ ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು 50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ಕ್ರಿಟಿಕಲ್ ಕೇರ್ ಯುನಿಟ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	11.38	28,000/–
12	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಸವದತ್ತಿ ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು 100 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	24.50	49,000/–
13	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ರಾಮದುರ್ಗ ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು 100 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	27.00	54,000/–
14	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಿದ್ವಾಯಿ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಕ್ಯಾನ್ಸರ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	13.98	34,000/–
15	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಯಕ್ಸಂಬಾ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು 30–50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	0.57	0.01
16	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕಾಗವಾಡ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಕಾಗವಾಡ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು 30–50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	0.55	0.01
17	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು 30–50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	0.55	0.01
18	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ನಿಪ್ಪಾಣಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ನಿಪ್ಪಾಣಿ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು 30–50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	0.55	0.01
19	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಯರಗಟ್ಟಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಯರಗಟ್ಟಿ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು 30–50 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	0.57	0.01
20	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಅಥಣಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ತಂಗಡಿ ಪ್ರಾ.ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	0.67	0.01
21	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ಮೇಲೆ ಎಮ್.ಬಿ.ಬಿ.ಎಸ್. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಂಟರ್ನ್ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.92	25,000/–
22	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಖಾನಾಪುರ ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು 100 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	16.24	41,000/–
23	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಶಿರಸಂಗಿ ಪ್ರಾ.ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	2.06	25,000/–
24	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ರಾಮದುರ್ಗ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಕಟಕೋಳ ಪ್ರಾ.ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	2.10	25,000/–
25	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ನರ್ಸಿಂಗ್ & ಪ್ಯಾರಾಮೆಡಿಕಲ್ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	3.28	25,000/–
26	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಟ್ಟ ಗಾಯಗಳ ಆರೈಕೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.66	25,000/–
27	ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆರ್.ಜಿ.ಹೆಚ್.ಯು.ಎಸ್. ಮೆಡಿಕಲ್ ಕಾಲೇಜ್, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರ ವಸತಿ ನಿಲಯ, ಬೋಧಕರ ವಸತಿ ಗೃಹ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	148.25	2,96,000/–
28	ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬಬಲೇಶ್ವರ ಪ್ರಾ.ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.64	25,000/–
29	ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕೋಲ್ಹಾರ ಪ್ರಾ. ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.64	25,000/–
30	ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ತೇರದಾಳ ಪ್ರಾ. ಆ.ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಗೇರಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.64	25,000/–
31	ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮುದ್ದೇಬಿಹಾಳ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ತಾಳಿಕೋಟೆ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ 20 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಆರ್., ಆರ್ಕಿಟೆಕ್ಚರಲ್, ಸ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಚರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ನಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸಲು ಸೇವಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ನೇಮಕ	4.30	25,000/–

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳು : (1) ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : **09.10.2025** ರಂದು 4.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ (ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್) : **10.10.2025** ರಂದು 4.30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ

ಸೂಚನೆ : (1) ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೇ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ/ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ /ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. (2) ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬದಲಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಆ&ಕು.ಕ.ಇ. ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/722/2025–26

Now, YSRCP objects to K'taka's plan to increase Almatti dam height

HYDERABAD, DHNS: After BRS, the Opposition in Telangana, it now seems to be the turn of its Andhra Pradesh counterpart - the YSRCP - to raise alarm over Karnataka's plan to increase the height of the Almatti dam.

YSRCP state general secretary S V Satish Reddy on Tuesday slammed the Chandrababu Naidu-led coalition government for 'neglecting AP's interests', while resorting to diversionary politics and personal attacks in the Assembly.

He expressed alarm over Naidu's silence on Karnataka's plans to raise the height of Almatti dam across River Krishna.

Reddy warned that it would deprive AP of 100 tmc ft of Krishna water, paralyze irrigation and drinking supply, intensify drought in Rayalaseema and halt inflows to Srisailam and Nagarjuna Sagar dams.

"As a partner in the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre, Naidu must stop this project. His failure is nothing but a curse on the state. Almatti is about survival. If the government fails, YSRCP will fight at the Centre to protect AP's rights," Reddy said.

He said that the Assembly had been reduced to targeting YSRCP chief Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, instead of addressing real issues.

"Delhi trips brought no benefit. Even promises like the Durga–Srisailam seaplane remain hollow," he said.

A few days ago, BRS had threatened to launch massive protests against Karnataka's decision to increase the Almatti dam height from 519 feet to 524 feet.

BRS working president K T Rama Rao had criticised Karnataka's plan, calling it a "death warrant" for Telangana farmers.

HDK urges govt to announce flood relief package immediately

'It is in deep slumber while people are hit by floods'

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Slamming the Congress government in Karnataka for its response to the floods in Kalyana Karnataka, Union Steel and Heavy Industries Minister H D Kumaraswamy on Tuesday urged the state government to immediately announce a relief package.

"While the people of Kalyana Karnataka face a flood crisis, the state government remains in a deep 'Kumbhakarna sleep' (deep slumber)," Kumaraswamy told the media here.

He added, "Only after criticism from the media and Opposition parties did the chief minister conduct an aerial survey of the flood-hit districts. But floods are an annual problem, and for the past three months, this government has been in deep slumber."

Kumaraswamy criticised the chief minister's response towards the Opposition parties demanding relief, saying, "Will abusing the Opposition solve the problems of flood victims?"

He suggested that the CM should depute senior ministers to flood-hit districts to supervise relief work.

"Had I not been facing health issues, I would have visited the flood-affected areas much earlier. I was ready to go two days ago, but officials advised against it due to bad weather," he said.

Describing the situation, Kumaraswamy said, "Widespread devastation has occurred in the flood-hit districts. Entire villages are submerged, and people have suffered for days. This has been a recurring problem for ten years. Despite such catastrophic floods this time, no minister has visited the affected areas." He also pointed to destruction in Chikkamagaluru district due to rains, where crops and homes were lost, yet the government has not extended help.

Kumaraswamy urged the state government to submit a proper memorandum to the Centre and assured that he would pursue maximum assistance from the Union Government.

"So far, not a single minister or official from the state has met Union Ministers representing Karnataka in Delhi," he said.

H D KUMARASWAMY
Union Steel and Heavy Industries Minister

"Only after criticism from the media and Opposition parties did the CM conduct an aerial survey of the flood-hit districts. But floods are an annual problem, and for the past three months, this government has been in deep slumber

Floods in river Bhima have inundated vast tracts of agricultural land, damaging crops.

CM announces additional relief of Rs 8.5k/ha for flood-hit farmers

CM, from Page 1

Siddaramaiah said Kalaburagi, Bidar, Yadgir, Vijayapura, Belagavi, Bagalkot, Dharwad, and Gadag received above-normal rainfall this year. Apart from excess rain, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura and Yadgir reported crop loss due to heavy discharge of water from Maharashtra's reservoirs.

He said crops on nearly 9.60 lakh ha of land were damaged due to excess rain with 95% of the affected farmers in North Karnataka. Floods impacted 117 villages across Kalaburagi, Vijayapura and Yadgir districts and district administrations have set up 80 relief camps. Nearly 52 people lost their lives this year due to rain-related incidents, he said.

Preliminary estimates say the state may have sustained crop loss worth Rs 1,000 crore. This apart, there has been damage to public property like roads, bridges, barrages and individual properties like houses. "Everyone will receive fair compensation after a joint survey," he said.

The meeting decided to seek Central assistance on the lines of Maharashtra, which received a Rs 2,200-crore package from the Union government. Soon, a delegation will be taken to Delhi to meet the prime minister, home minister and finance minister seeking additional funds, he said.

The chief minister said currently there is no dearth of funds and every PD account of the DC has sufficient funds for emergency rescue and relief operations.

"The state government had initiated a joint survey of crop loss in the first week of September. However, the state suffered second round of crop damage due to excess rain in Kalaburagi region and release of water from Maharashtra's Ujani and Neera reservoirs," he said and added that so far, officials of the revenue and agriculture departments have completed the joint survey of nearly five lakh ha of land.

"There would be confusion if we distribute relief to only those farmers who sustained losses earlier," he said.

The state government is also considering using surveyors, revenue and agriculture officials from other non-affected districts to conduct joint surveys in these four districts.

He instructed officials to build temporary and permanent barriers where necessary to prevent further damage. "Officials should visit every government school in flood affected villages to take stock of their stability. If schools fail in fitness tests, then students should be shifted to safer places," he said.

B'luru cybercrime tally more than top 10 cities' total

Cybercrime, from Page 1

But 2023 marked a turning point and fundamentally altered the landscape of cybercrimes and their investigations across India, senior police officers opined.

"The year 2023 was when several complex modus operandi emerged. Many such cases, especially digital arrest, were first reported in Bengaluru and then spread to different parts of the country, including Mumbai and Delhi," a senior cybercrime investigator in Bengaluru told *DH*.

"At the same time, investigators also found complex layering of proceeds of crime by using bank accounts as mules to launder money. Initially, it was difficult for the officers to peel through the layers as responses from intermediaries like banks used to be delayed. Hence, the low chargesheeting rate. The situation across Karnataka has improved now with better training and better-equipped and technically sound officers posted at cybercrime police stations," he added.

Another officer attributed the rise in cases to more awareness and better reporting. "Cases seem to be high as their reporting has increased. There is an increased awareness about cybercrimes, and people are coming forward with complaints. We still want to reiterate to the public to inform the police as soon as one falls prey to cybercrimes and dial 1930, the national helpline, as time is of the essence to recover the money," the officer added.

Two injured in building blast in Alur

ALUR (HASSAN DIST), DHNS

A couple sustained serious injuries in a blast at a building adjoining their house on Bikkodu Road, Hale Aluru, in Alur town, Hassan district, on Monday night.

Sudarshan, 32, and his wife Kavya, 27, have sustained serious injuries in the blast. They were rushed to the Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences (HIMS) for treatment. Later, they were shifted to Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru, in zero traffic, for further treatment.

The sheet roof of the house was blown away due to the impact of the blast and it landed on a tree nearby. The exact reason for the blast is yet to be ascertained. However, police have ruled out any LPG cylinder blast after preliminary investigation.

Forensic science experts and sniffer dog squad visited the spot along with a bomb disposal squad on Tuesday morning. They inspected the spot and collected the debris and fragments of explosives from the scene.

As there is a possibility of presence of chemicals at the site, bomb disposal squad personnel have conducted a separate inspection.

Police and bomb disposal squad inspect the blast site at Alur in Hassan district on Tuesday. DH PHOTO

Bihar has 7.42 cr voters now, ...

Bihar, from Page 1

The draft roll had 7.24 crore voters, leaving 65 lakh out of the list.

People whose names appeared in the 2003 voters list, which was prepared after the previous SIR, and their children were to provide only the copy of the voter list. Others had to provide documents to prove citizenship and domicile from a list of 11 documents.

An EC statement said physical and digital copies of the final electoral roll are being shared with political parties. Any voter can check it online.

The EC had on June 24 said that it has decided to begin SIR in the entire country and would be starting it with Bihar, as the state is going to polls in October-November. It had said the schedule for the rest of the country would be announced later. The poll panel had reasoned the SIR was necessary because the exercise was last held in 2003 and there could be instances of repeated entry in electoral rolls due to rapid urbanisation and frequent migration.

The Opposition had slammed the process, claiming it was an exercise in mass disenfranchisement. The I.N.D.I.A bloc had hit the streets with 'Vote Chori Yatra' in Bihar, with top leaders Rahul Gandhi and Tejashwi Yadav leading the protest.

CM, not teachers, should be suspended, says Sunil Kumar

BENGALURU, DHNS: Voicing his objections to the state government's decision to suspend teachers for not participating in the ongoing Social and Educational Survey – caste census – BJP legislator V Sunil Kumar on Tuesday called for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's suspension.

Drawing attention to the many problems that teachers faced, Kumar asked, "Do you know what difficulties the teachers are facing? It's not the teachers, but CM Siddaramaiah who must be suspended for ordering this survey just so he can prolong his tenure, which is likely to come to an end in November."

He accused the CM of ordering the survey without any preparation.

9 workers die in Chennai...

Collapse, from Page 1

"Other workers rescued 10 of them but nine were declared dead. The injured person is stable," a senior official said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh from PMNRF to the next of kin of each deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured.

Chief Minister M K Stalin announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh each to the families of the deceased workers. "I was deeply saddened to hear the news that nine workers from Assam lost their lives in an accident that occurred during the construction work of the power plant being carried out by BHEL in Ennore," Stalin said in a statement.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over South Interior and at many places over Coastal Karnataka and North Interior Karnataka

Forecast Oct 01: Rainfall to occur at some places over the state.

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	31.5
Bengaluru	29.2	19.4	00
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	29.5	17.8	05
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	27.8	19.7	00
Davangere	25.5	19	3.8
Hassan	26.6	17.3	00
Mysuru	29	18	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	29.8	18.4	00

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	24.6	18.8	02
Bidar	30.2	20	00
Vijayapura	29	20.5	0.4
Dharwad	25.8	NA	00
Haveri	26.2	20.2	04
Kalaburagi	31.7	21.2	00
Raichur	30.4	22	11.4

COASTAL

Honnavar	29.4	25.1	9.4
Karwar	28.8	23.6	08
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	30.2	22	0.5

OTHER STATIONS

New Delhi	37.5	28.7	00
Kolkata	34.5	28	00
Mumbai	28.5	23.4	12
Chennai	33.5	25.8	04
Pune	26.7	19.4	0.5
Hyderabad	30.4	21.6	00
Th'puram	32.2	24.8	00

AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of vehicles.

1) CB_ALU5525_TIP_TRAILER _CHASSIS YOM – 2023 Reg No – KA28AA8915
2) CB_ALU5525_TIP_TRAILER _CHASSIS YOM – 2023 Reg No – KA28AA8917
3) CB_EICHER_PRO_2110_E_BS _6_CAB_CHASSIS YOM – - Reg No – KA52B9896
4) HYADRAULIC EXCAVATOR 70 TONS YOM – 2022 Chassis No P07020101 Engine No P07020101
5) CB_AL_GM4220_CHASSIS YOM – 2022 Reg No – KA22AA0235
6) CB_TIPPER_SIGNA_4830 _TATA_MOTORS YOM – - Reg No – KA35D7173
7) CB_BACKHOE_LOADER _BULL_HD76_BULL YOM – - Reg No – KA20MF1789
8) CB_EICHER_PRO_2118_FBV YOM – - Reg No – KA52C8818
9) CB_TATA_INTRA_V_10 YOM – 2019 Reg No – KA04AC3324
10) CB_AL_EA1920_6600MM_ WB_FITTED_WITH_200HP_BS6 YOM – 2022 Reg No – KA18C7950
11) CB_TATA_INTRA_TATAMOTORS YOM – 2023 Reg No – KA05AN1755
12) CB_MAHINDRA_BOLERO _MAXXCITY_PICKUP YOM – 2023 Reg No – KA09AA7636
13) CB_ TATA INTRA V30_ COMMERCIAL VEHICLE YOM – - Reg No – KA51AK5126
14) CB_TATA_ACE_GOLD YOM – 2024 Reg No – KA33B6665
15) CB_ASHOKLEYLAND_ 4825_CABIN_CHASSIS YOM – 2023 Reg No – KA22AA2660
16) CB_EXCAVATOR_EX_130 _TATA_HITACHI YOM – - Engine No NWX108907
17) CB_AL U TIPPERS U3123 CAB CHASSIS TIPPER YOM – 2019 Engine No KA53AB2715

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INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS (ONLINE/OFFLINE) WITHIN 15 DAYS FROM THIS PAPER PUBLICATION i.e. from 01.10.2025

(Please note that closing Auction date would not be a Weekly off / Holiday)

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OR

Contact: Prashanthkumar S Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. Contact / 080 - 61564202

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NOTIFICATION NOs: 38/2025, 39/2025 & 40/2025 / Dt. 01/10/2025

ADVERTISEMENTS FOR RECRUITMENT OF TEACHING & NON TEACHING POSITIONS

The University invites applications through an online mode from eligible candidates for the appointment of **Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Non-Teaching positions** in various Departments through **Advertisement** for recruitment. Interested candidates may please **visit: www.cuk.ac.in** for more details.

Place : Kalaburagi Sd/-
Date : 01-10-2025 REGISTRAR

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಹಕಾರ ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳ ನಿಯಮಿತ
ನಂ. ೩೭, ೩ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ರೇಸ್‌ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - ೫೬೦೦೦೧.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080-22268018/19 / Email ID: sahakarapatrike@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಪವಿ/72ಸಿ/2025–2026 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 30.09.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಹಕಾರ ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳವು ಪ್ರತಿವಾರ ಸಹಕಾರ ವಾರಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯು 18.5 ಸೆಂ.ಮೀ. x 26 ಸೆಂ.ಮೀ. ಅಳತೆಯದ್ದಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಇದರ ಮುದ್ರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿಟಿಪಿ, ಹೀಟ್‌ಸೆಟ್ ವೆಬ್ ಆಫ್‌ಸೆಟ್ (Heatset Web Offset) ಹಾಗೂ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಪಿನ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಯಂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಮುದ್ರಕರಿಂದ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಎಂಡಿ ರೂ. 1.50 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಏಕೀಕೃತ ಇ–ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ದೊರೆಯುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

1) ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.10.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ

2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.10.2025 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

3) ಫೈನಾನ್ಸಿಯಲ್ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.10.2025 ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

KELADI SHIVAPPA NAYAKA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES.
Office of Estate Officer, Main Premises,
Iruvakki 577412, Shivamogga District
Ph.No :**9480838979**, E-mail: **eo@uahs.edu.in**

No.: ಕೆಶಿನಾಕೃತೋವಿವಿ(ಇ)/ಆ.ಅ/ಡಿ.ಬಿ/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–08/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 25.09.2025

Tender Notification
(Through e-procurement portal only)

ಕೆಳದಿ ಶಿವಪ್ಪನಾಯಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುವ 2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮೇಳಕ್ಕೆ ಪೆಂಡಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಹೈ–ಟೆಕ್ ಸ್ಟಾಲ್ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಪೆಂಡಲ್‌ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಇತರೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ

ಕೆಳದಿ ಶಿವಪ್ಪನಾಯಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುವ 2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮೇಳಕ್ಕೆ ಪೆಂಡಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಹೈ–ಟೆಕ್ ಸ್ಟಾಲ್ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮತ್ತು ಪೆಂಡಲ್‌ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಇತರೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಮತ್ತು ಎಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನೋಟಿಫಿಕೇಷನ್, ಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ವಿವರಗಳು **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕು.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿದೆ: 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ 09.10.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. 2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ 10.10.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. 3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ 11.10.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಳಸಹಿದಾರರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಆಸ್ತಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಕೆಳದಿ ಶಿವಪ್ಪ ನಾಯಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಇರುವಕ್ಕಿ, ಸಾಗರ ತಾಲೂಕು, ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ–577412 ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 9480838979.

Sd/-
Estate Officer, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural & Horticultural Sciences, Iruvakki, Shivamogga

DIPR/SMG/No- 143-09/ zenkar/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT DIVISION, BELAGAVI)

No/PWD/BGM/QUOTATION RATES/TA/2025-26/3945 DATE: 30.09.2025

ITEM RATE QUOTATION NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer PWD Division Belagavi invites, quotation for various items required in the Suvarna Soudha Building and Belgaum Inspection Banglow as part of the pre-preparations for the Winter Session of 2025-26. The above work is to be undertaken and quotations are being invited for some selected items as the prices are not available in the Uni SR for the year 2023-24 (continued for the year 2025-26) for the preparation of the estimate of the work. Quotations are invited by The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi for the items on the notice board of the office, subject to the following conditions.

Terms and Conditions:

1. The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Belgaum Division, Belgaum reserves the right to reject the said rates without assigning any reason.
2. The rates should be inclusive of all charges.
3. GST at 18% will be paid separately
4. The rates should be quoted for the essential material items given and in case if any change in specifications of items this should be clearly stated.
5. Sealed quotations should reach this office on or before 10.10.2025 @ 4.00 pm or in person to this office. Delay in portal transit will not be considered. For more information contact this office and Helpline No. 0831-2467103

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Department,
Belagavi Division, Belagavi.

DIPR / BGM/ RO.NO 1123 /2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಗರ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ಒಳಚರಂಡಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಕನನೀಸ ಮತ್ತು ಒಚ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಂದೀಗೌಡ ಬಡಾವಣೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ : ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ 08232–224816. e mail- kwbeemnd@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:–ಕಜಮ/ಕಾಅ/ಮಂಡ್ಯ/ತಾ.ಶಾ/ತಾ.ಸ/ಸ.ಅ/985/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:25.09.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಐಟಂವಾರು ದರದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ : 01. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು : ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: KUWSDB/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT393/CALL-2: ಅಮೃತ್ 2.0 "ಜಲ್ ಹಿ ಅಮೃತ್" ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ಧನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮದ್ದೂರು ಪಟ್ಟಣದಲ್ಲಿನ 500 ಕೆ.ಎಲ್.ಡಿ ಎಂ.ಎಂ.ಬಿ.ಆರ್ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಬಳಸಿದ ನೀರು ಶುದ್ಧೀಕರಣ ಘಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಇಂಟರ್‌ನೆಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಥಿಂಗ್ಸ್ (IoT) ಆಧಾರಿತ ಸ್ವಯಂಚಾಲಿತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಘಟಕದ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೌಚಾಲಯ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ – (including 1 year DLP) (Lumpsum Tender-No Variation)

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊಬಲಗು: ರೂ.20,08,415/–

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ : 02. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು : ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: KUWSDB/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT394/CALL-2: ಅಮೃತ್ 2.0 "ಜಲ್ ಹಿ ಅಮೃತ್" ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ಧನದಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀರಂಗಪಟ್ಟಣದಲ್ಲಿನ 5.00 ಎಂ.ಎಲ್.ಡಿ ಎಸ್.ಬಿ.ಆರ್ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಬಳಸಿದ ನೀರು ಶುದ್ಧೀಕರಣ ಘಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಇಂಟರ್‌ನೆಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಥಿಂಗ್ಸ್ (IoT) ಆಧಾರಿತ ಸ್ವಯಂಚಾಲಿತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಸೌರ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿ, ಆಳವಡಿಸಿ, ವಿದ್ಯುದ್ದೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಚಾಲನೆಗೊಳಿಸುವುದು, 5.00 ಎಂ.ಎಲ್.ಡಿ ಎಸ್.ಬಿ.ಆರ್ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಬಳಸಿದ ನೀರು ಶುದ್ಧೀಕರಣ ಘಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಬನ್ ಫಿಲ್ಟರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿ ಆಳವಡಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ – (including 1 year DLP) (Lumpsum Tender-No Variation) .

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊಬಲಗು : ರೂ 60,74,890/–

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರು, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ ಮಂಡ್ಯ ರವರನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಕನನೀಸ ಮತ್ತು ಒಚ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/469/2025–26

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION, DHARWAD

SECTION 1 : INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) (Two Cover System), KW-3
Reg: This office tender Notification No. 09/2025-26 Dated:29/09/2025

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Division, Dharwad, invites tenders for Dharwad, Gadag, Hangal and Ranebennur Sub Division, comes under this undersigned office in Standard Bid Document KW-1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka, viz., https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from eligible contractors for the work under various Head of Account on Turn Key and Item Rate Bases. Maximum Estimate Amount: Rs.22,000.00 Lakhs, Maximum E.M.D amount Rs.330.00 Lakhs and Minimum Estimate Amount: Rs. 3.00 Lakhs, Minimum E.M.D amount Rs.7500.00 Period of downloading tender documents from e- And any other procurement portal is from 03/10/2025 up to 30 Days step by step. Corrigendum/Addendum and Postponement of Notification, Changes in the dates, if any will be published only through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Other details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days. Details published on the e-procurement website @ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in are final.

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
M.I & G.W.D. DIVISION, DHARWAD

dipr/hvr/dipo/429/25-26

NCRB REPORT: The disposal of cases by police & judiciary, however, hasn't kept pace

Manipur effect: Crimes against STs up 29% in 2023

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Crime against Scheduled Tribes (ST) rose by around 29%, driven by an increase in cases from just one to 3,399 in ethnic violence-hit Manipur in 2023. Meanwhile, 15 states and Union Territories saw a decrease in such crimes, and 10 others reported no incidents at all.

However, the disposal of cases by the police and judiciary has not gathered pace, with a report showing that investigations in 42.7% of cases remain pending, while 93% of cases under trial have not been concluded. In Manipur, 99.3% of cases are still pending, and none of the cases on trial saw a conclusion.

The Crime in India 2023 report by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), released on Monday, showed that 12,960 cases of crimes against 13,740 STs were reported in 2023, an increase of 28.8% from 10,064 cases in 2022. In 2021, there were 8,802 cases.

Manipur, which had just one case in 2022 and none in 2021, and has been witnessing ethnic violence since May 2023, topped the list with 3,408 victims in 3,339 incidents. It was followed by Madhya Pradesh (2,934 victims in 2,858 incidents) and Rajasthan (2,817 victims in 2,453 cases).

In 2023, Karnataka registered 434 cases involving 596 victims. The state had 361 cases in 2021 and 438 in 2022.

Regarding the disposal of cases by police, the report showed that across India, police were investigating 14,815 cases of crimes against STs in 2023, including 2,701 pending cases from previous years. Chargesheets were submitted in 7,427 cases (79.5%), while 42.7% of investigations remained pending.

In Manipur, the police were investigating 3,405 cases, including six pending cases from years before 2023. Only 24 cases were disposed of, and chargesheets were filed in just five cases (20%), all from 2023, while a staggering 3,381 cases remained pending.

Most of the cases registered in Manipur in 2023 were related to rioting (1,542), arson (1,051), dacoity (260) and occupying or disposing of land belonging to STs (193).

Across India, there were 52,896 cases of crimes against Scheduled Tribes for trial in courts, of which 49,189 (93%) remained pending at the end of 2023. Trials were completed in 3,665 cases, resulting in convictions in 901 cases, or 24.6%.

In Manipur, only eight cases were on trial, and none of them were concluded.

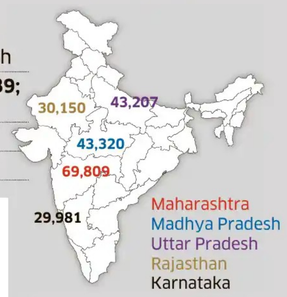
Regarding crimes against Dalits, the report showed that 57,789 cases were registered in 2023, a slight increase of 0.4% from 57,582 cases reported in 2022. The crime rate rose from 28.6 per one lakh population in 2022 to 28.7 in 2023.

The highest number of cases (18,437 or 31.9%) were registered under simple hurt, followed by criminal intimidation with 7.8% (4,486 cases), and cases under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act with 7.5% (4,345 cases).

Suicides, accidental deaths: 2023 in numbers

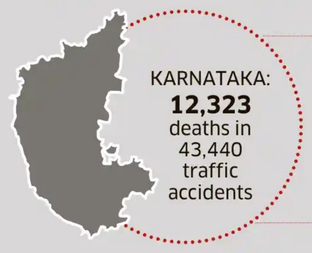
ACCIDENTAL DEATHS / RATE
4,44,104 / 31.9 per one lakh
Male: **3,64,757**; Female: **79,289**; Others: **58**
1,40,933 in **30-45** age group
1,08,254 in **18-30** age group

Mumbai **8,974**	Bengaluru **4,414**
Pune **5,054**	Delhi **3,508**



2022 **4,30,504** / 31.2 per one lakh
Male: 3,55,521; **Female: 74,935**; **Others: 48**

4,91,190 Traffic accidents
1,97,871 Deaths **4,51,228** Injuries



4,64,029 Road Accidents
1,73,826 deaths
4,47,969 injured

2,483 Railway Crossing Accidents | **24,678** Railway Accidents

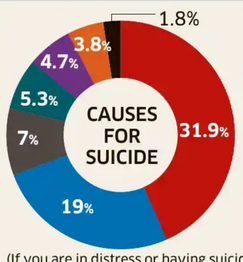
DEATHS DUE TO (2022 / 2023)
- Heart Attack: 32,457/**35,715**
- Snakebites: 10,085/**10,144**
- Abortions: 80/**127**
- Illicit liquor: 507/**456**
- Drug overdose: 693/**650**

SUICIDE RATE
2023: **1,71,418** (12.3 per lakh)
Male: **1,24,730**; Female: **46,648** Others: **40**

Cities: **16.2**/lakh	**Rural:** **12.3**/lakh
Maharashtra: **22,687** (17.9/lakh)	Tamil Nadu: **19,483** (25.2/lakh)
Madhya Pradesh: **15,662** (18/lakh)	Karnataka: **13,330** (19.7/lakh)

Delhi: **3,131**; Bengaluru: **2,370**; Chennai: **1,529**; Mumbai: **1,415**

2022: **1,70,924** (12.4 per lakh)
Male: **1,22,724**; Female: **48,172**; Others: **28**



- Family problems
- Illness
- Drug abuse/alcohol addiction
- Marriage-related issues
- Love Affairs
- Bankruptcy or indebtedness
- Unemployment

Daily wage earners: **42,795**
Farmers/farm labourers: **9,986**
Unemployed: **11,775**
Students: **7,330**
Govt servants: **1,915**
Retired persons: **1,008**

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

Source: Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2023 by NCRB

Crimes against children record 9.2% increase

NEW DELHI, PTI: A total of 1,77,335 cases of crime against children were registered in the country in 2023, showing an increase of 9.2% over 2022, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report.

The data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau showed that the crime rate in 2023 stood at 39.9 per one lakh child population in comparison to 36.6 in 2022.

In 2022, a total of 1,62,449 cases of crimes against children were recorded, while the number stood at 1,49,404 in 2021.

"A total of 1,77,335 cases of crime against children were registered during 2023, showing an increase of 9.2% over 2022 (1,62,449 cases)," the NCRB report said.

In percentage terms, major crime heads under "Crime Against Children" in 2023 were "Kidnapping and Abduction of Children" (79,884 cases, 45%) and "Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act" (67,694 cases, 38.2%).

Victim demographics show that 762 victims were aged below six years, 3,229 aged between six and 12 years, 15,444 aged between 12 and 16 years and 21,411 aged between 16 and 18 years, bringing the total number of child victims to 40,846.

Most were girls in rape-related sections.

Of the 40,434 cases, the offenders were known to the victims in 39,076, which included family members in 3,224 cases, family friends or neighbours or employers or other known persons in 15,146 cases and friends or online friends or live-in partners on the pretext of marriage in 20,706 cases.

Kidnapping and abduction emerged as the largest contributor, with 79,884 IPC cases reported, victimising 82,106 children—a rate of 18 per one lakh.

Other significant IPC crimes included 1,219 murders (1,384 victims), with 89 linked to rape or Pocso violations; 3,050 simple hurt cases and 373 cases of abetment to suicide.

Special and Local Laws (SLL) beyond the Pocso Act added to the tally, with 6,038 cases under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and 1,390 under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act.

Most cases in MP

Regionally, Madhya Pradesh topped the list with 22,393 total cases, followed by Maharashtra (22,390) and Uttar Pradesh (18,852).

Assam reported a sharp spike of 10,174 cases (rate: 84.2, the highest among the states), while Bihar saw 9,906 cases.

Union Territories like the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (143.4) and Delhi (140.3) had disproportionately high rates, with Delhi alone registering 7,769 cases.

Muslim population will never surpass Hindus: Owaisi

MUMBAI, DHNS: Muslims will never surpass Hindus in terms of population, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi said, countering claims made by some Right-wing politicians and organisations.

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) among Muslims has actually declined, Owaisi told reporters in Pune.

"...The latest National Family Health Survey shows that among all religious communities, the TFR for the Muslim community has dropped the most. Even though it is still slightly higher than that of our Hindu brothers and sisters, the decline is sharper among Muslims," he said.

"Experts have already stated that Muslim population growth will stabilise at 20 to 21 percent, while the Hindu population will stabilise at around 2071. Muslim population growth will stabilise, and it will never surpass the Hindu population in this country," Owaisi added.

On the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, he said: "India, I must say, after Pahalgam, we had a real opportunity to give a strong response to Pakistan. Why did it stop? I truly don't know why it stopped. It was a war-like situation, and suddenly operations halted. Why stop, brother, when the entire country was ready to deliver a decisive response? Now, you sit in Parliament and speak about gaining Pakistan-occupied Kashmir."

Kerala Congress members initiate conciliatory talks with Nair community leader

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Worried over the pro-CPM stand of the Nair community leader in Kerala, a section of Congress leaders have initiated conciliatory efforts even as the fresh developments seem to be an attempt to corner opposition leader V D Satheesan.

Veteran leader P J Kurian and senior leader Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan visited Nair Service Society (NSS) general secretary G Sukumaran Nair, who openly backed the CPM government, deviating from the traditional pro-Congress stand of the Nair community.

Even as both the Congress leaders stated that the NSS would continue to have a cordial relationship with the Congress, Sukumaran Nair is learnt to have expressed his displeasure with the Congress.

Sources said the stubborn stand of opposition leader V D Satheesan against succumbing to the pressure tactics of community leaders could be a reason for Sukumaran Nair to take an anti-Congress stand. It could put Satheesan under pressure to engage in dialogues with the NSS leadership.

Sukumaran Nair had earlier openly lashed out at Satheesan by accusing him of disregarding the community organisation.

Satheesan's statement that he would not go after any community leaders for support had irked the NSS general secretary.

'Personal meetings'

Even while reacting to reports that Congress leaders were trying to mediate with the NSS leadership now, Satheesan said those were personal meetings only.

The other day also Satheesan said the Congress did not seek the support of any community outfits and that they were free to take their stand.

Tharoor's participation

Meanwhile, the participation of Congress MP Shashi Tharoor at a public programme of the party in Thiruvananthapuram brought relief to the Congress camp as he had been keeping off from party programmes for a while.

Tharoor participated in the valedictory function of the Mahila Sahas Yatra, organised by the Mahila Congress against the CPM government.

Senior party leaders, including Satheesan and Kerala PCC president Sunny Joseph, were also present.

Maharashtra floods damage 60 lakh hectares of crops

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

More than 60 lakh hectares of standing crops and agricultural fields were ravaged during the unseasonal rains and floods in Maharashtra, according to initial estimates.

The floods and losses were discussed at the weekly Cabinet meeting presided over by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in Mumbai.

The Chief Minister said that compensation would be provided to farmers by Diwali.

Last week, Fadnavis, along with Deputy Chief Ministers Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, visited the flood-affected areas and spoke to the people.

Flooded Pakani locality as swollen Sina river floods nearby areas, in Solapur, on Tuesday. PTI

"As per the preliminary estimate, 60 lakh hectares of area have been damaged," Fadnavis told reporters.

The government, however, did not declare a "wet drought" as demanded by the Opposition, saying no such provision exists in the official manual.

"A demand has been raised for a wet drought. However, there is no such mention in the official manual. A wet drought has never been announced. But we have decided to extend all benefits related to drought to the affected persons," Fadnavis said.

"We expect the damage assessment to be completed in the next two to three days, and a comprehensive policy will be announced within the next week," he added, noting that once all details are in place, a memorandum will be sent to the Centre for a relief package.

"The government will declare a relief package next week," Fadnavis said, pointing out that the disbursal of Rs 2,215 crore aid covering crop losses till August has already commenced.

On the issue of loan recovery notices to farmers at a time when they are facing difficulties, Fadnavis clarified that the notices pertain to old recoveries.

SMART FIX

Tirumala's AI devices turn trash into refunds

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

After launching an AI-powered command and control centre for crowd management, the Tirumala hill shrine in Andhra Pradesh has introduced its first AI-enabled devices for collecting post-consumer recyclables (PCR), which was reviewed by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu. This initiative, introduced under the Digital Deposit Refund Scheme (DDRS), marks an important step towards cleaner pilgrimage spaces and sustainable waste management.

Developed with guidance from the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) and powered by a Hyderabad-based cleantech provider, the unique system allows pilgrims to receive instant deposit refunds via UPI for returning empty Tetra Paks and aluminium cans. For this pilot, products sold within Tirumala were pre-printed with Unique Serialised Identifier (USI) QR codes.

At the time of purchase, consumers pay a refundable deposit held in an escrow account managed jointly by TTD and the cleantech firm. When the used item is dropped into the AI-enabled device, the corresponding deposit is instantly refunded.

"This process not only encourages responsible behaviour but also ensures faster, cleaner and traceable recovery of materials, preventing them from ending up in landfills and avoiding delays typical of traditional waste chains," said a spokesperson of the cleantech firm.

The devices were research-designed and manufactured in India with more than 50% local content. Built to withstand heat and dust, they are low-maintenance and well-suited to high-footfall pilgrimage sites.

Equipped with integrated AI and IoT capabilities, the collection units capture detailed metadata such as colour, category, contamination levels, SKU size and brand. This provides greater transparency in waste management, while cleaner collections enable recyclers to achieve higher material recovery rates.

Beyond environmental gains, the initiative also supports the informal waste sector. Local sanitation workers can deposit collected materials into the devices and receive instant, fair refunds.

By combining cutting-edge AI with real-time digital refund systems, Tirumala has set an example for other high-footfall religious and cultural destinations.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal only)

KPTCL Invites Bids for the following:

1. CEE/Tr(Op)ZM/SEE(O)/AEE-4/25-26/5300 Date:29.09.2025

Bid Enquiry No:KPTCL/CEE/TZM/SEE(O)/AEE-4/2025-26/492/Call-4 Dated: 23.09.2025 for Design, Manufacture, Testing & Supply of AC & DC Distribution Panels, PTDB's for various stations coming under Transmission (Op) Zone, Mysuru conforming to technical specifications, FORD at Store/Site basis, including insurance, transportation & unloading".

2. CEE/Tr(Op)ZM/SEE(O)/AEE-4/25-26/5301 Date:29.09.2025

KPTCL/CEE/TZM/SEE(O)/AEE-4/2025-26/493/Call-3 Dated: 23.09.2025 for Design, Manufacture, Testing & Supply of LTAC Panels(Indoor) for various stations coming under Transmission (Op) Zone, Mysuru conforming to Technical Specifications, FORD at Store/Site basis, including insurance, transportation & unloading".

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **'E Procurement KPTCL'** or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **30.09.2025**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Elec), Transmission (Op) Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana, FTS Compound, N.R.Mohalla, Mysuru-570 007.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division, 2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, **Email ID:** eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

Tender Notification No. 23/2025-26 DATED: 30.09.2025

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD No.2 NORTH Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published for 03 works **(Rs. 49.00 to 100.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 13.10.2025**

2.The opening of tenders through KPP portal on **Dated: 14.10.2025 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/3046/Zen/2025-26

PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA - CRPF
YELAHANKA, BENGALURU - 560 064.
Tele No. : 080-28567017
E-mail : kvcrpfyelfin@gmail.com Website : https://crpfyelahanka.kvs.ac.in

WALK IN INTERVIEW

On 06th October 2025
For The Following Contractual Posts From 9.00 a.m.

Post	Date & time
Primary Teacher / Sports Coach / Music Teacher / Kannada Teacher / Vocational Instructor and Band Master (Pipe).	06th October, 2025, 9.00 a.m. onwards

For eligibility, forms please log on to https://crpfyelahanka.kvs.ac.in.

Sd/- Principal

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
E-mail ID: - dhoukannada@gmail.com, Phone: 08382-226339, Fax: 08382-222452
Phone: 08419-261152, Fax : 261463

ನಂ.: ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ-1/106/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30-09-2025

ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ವಿಷಯ: ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧೀನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ 2025-26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಿರುವ ENT ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸಲಕರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು.

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧೀನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ 2025-26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಿರುವ ENT ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸಲಕರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ /ಎಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರಗಳು	ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ 2%	ರೂ. 106,000/-
2	ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಆರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ದಿನಾಂಕ:30-09-2025, ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ
3	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10-10-2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ರಿಂದ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 03-00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
4	ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16-10-2025ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5-30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
5	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18-10-2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11-30 ಘಂಟೆ
6	ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ	ರೂ. 53,00,000/- ಮಾತ್ರ

ಸಹಿ/-
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಉ.ಕ. ಕಾರವಾರ

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, HAL Airport Road, Bengaluru - 560 017
(Phone: 080 25084184, 4156)
BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

Sl.No	Description	Details		
1	Name of work	Providing Fencing and Paver Blocks for Cable Yard and Gypsum Board Partition for Substations at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru.	Annual Contract for Lifting & Re-Installation of Submersible Pump sets and Flushing of Bore Wells at Main Campus URSC, ISITE Campus and Housing Colonies, Bengaluru.	Expansion of the Existing DPC Review Conference Hall at New Guest House, Main Campus, URSC, Vimanapura, Bengaluru- 560017.
2	E-Tender Notice No.	URSC/C&MG/C/M/18/2025-26, Dt. 26.09.2025	URSC/C&MG/C/M/19/2025-26, Dt. 26.09.2025	URSC/C&MG/C/M/20/2025-26, Dt. 26.09.2025
3	Estimated cost put to tender	₹ 24.06 Lakhs	₹ 11.54 Lakhs	₹ 24.22 Lakhs
4	Tender Document details	E-Tender		
5	Period of completion	FIVE MONTHS	TWELVE MONTHS	THREE MONTHS
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 48,120/- valid for 180 days	Rs. 23,080/- valid for 180 days	Rs. 48,440/- valid for 180 days
7	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	From 09.30 hrs on 30.09.2025 to 23.59 hrs on 13.10.2025		From 09.30 hrs on 30.09.2025 to 23.59 hrs on 09.10.2025
8	Bid clarification	From 10.30 hrs on 30.09.2025 to 17.00 hrs on 14.10.2025		From 10.30 hrs on 30.09.2025 to 17.00 hrs on 10.10.2025
9	Last date of reply to Bid Clarification	Up to 17.00 hrs on 15.10.2025		Up to 17.00 hrs on 13.10.2025
10	Last date and time for receipt of tenders	Up to 14.30 hrs on 17.10.2025		Up to 14.30 hrs on 14.10.2025
11	Due date and time of opening of tenders	14.30 hrs Onwards on 17.10.2025		14.30 hrs Onwards on 14.10.2025

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**.

Sd/-,
Group Director (C&MG)

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

The games we must not play

India's hard-fought and creditable victory against Pakistan in the Asia Cup final was overshadowed by a bizarre display of low politics. Cricketers on both sides resorted to intimidating actions on the field and the post-match ceremony turned farcical with the Indians celebrating a real win with an imaginary trophy. The spirit of cricket was relegated in a show of unsavoury political assertion that started with Indian captain Suryakumar Yadav refusing to shake hands with his Pakistani counterpart, Salman Agha. During the India-Pakistan games in the tournament, Pakistani players including Haris Rauf mimicked military actions such as downing a plane, alluding to Pakistan's claims about Indian losses during Operation Sindoor. In the final, Jasprit Bumrah responded with a similar gesture. India refused to accept the trophy from Asian Cricket Council chief Mohsin Naqvi, who is also Pakistan's Interior Minister. Pakistan's captain threw away the runners-up cheque and Naqvi left the ground with the trophy.

Yadav claimed that his protests were in the context of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and Operation Sindoor, and aligned with the government's policy. The captain dedicated the victory to the armed forces, donated his match fees to the Army and the Pahalgam victims, and insisted that the team's decisions were its own. But it is evident that the cricketers were only the front for a political game. BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia's comments against Naqvi indicate this. Both teams and their governing bodies have complained against each other on various counts.

Political one-upmanship and war symbolism take the sheen off a thrilling cricketing triumph

Sport is not about war and divisions. It should heal, not hurt. Here was a game that could have brought in a sense of calm on the pitch between two sides representing sparring countries. Instead, the game drifted to war symbolism and political theatre. Accepted conventions were violated and actions alien to the game were seen on and off the field. The hostility which played out through the three India-Pakistan games was unfortunate, especially because it was set in motion by India. If India did not want to play Pakistan, it could have boycotted the matches instead of participating and then going against the spirit of the game. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's response to the Indian victory typified the sentiments – he equated it with Operation Sindoor. How would the comparison hold, had India lost? The Prime Minister should refrain from crowd-pleasing rhetoric and treat matters of national import with the seriousness they deserve. Yadav only extended this charade by lauding 'Sir' – the PM – for batting on the front foot. That, clearly, was not cricket.

More Metro: An ill-conceived extension

The Karnataka government's proposal to extend the Namma Metro network from Bengaluru's Madavara to Tumakuru is impractical and fiscally reckless. District in-charge minister G Parameshwara has himself acknowledged that the project could cost an astronomical Rs 20,649 crore. Despite this, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has been asked to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) at Rs 3 crore. This is a wasteful distraction when the city and its surrounding regions urgently require more rational and cost-effective transport solutions. Metro systems are fundamentally designed for intra-urban mobility. Their core strength lies in frequent stops, rapid acceleration, and short-trip convenience within dense city limits. Extending this model across 60 kilometres to connect Bengaluru and Tumakuru makes little sense. Metro trains, with their closely spaced stations, average low speeds, and rolling stock optimised for standing passengers, are unsuitable for longer journeys. A long crawl in a metro coach between two cities is neither efficient nor comfortable.

The alternative is staring the government in the face. Bengaluru already sits on a busy railway corridor to Tumakuru, currently served by passenger trains and express services. With moderate upgrades in coordination with the central government, this line can easily deliver a high-frequency, high-capacity service. A train running at 100-160 km/h with limited stops could link Tumakuru to Bengaluru in under an hour. Crucially, such a system would be significantly cheaper while making optimal use of existing infrastructure. The government should focus on integrating such services into Bengaluru's broader mobility network. It should also make full use of the services of Tumakuru MP V Somanna, who is also the Minister of State for Railways. A logical arrangement would be to run semi-high-speed trains terminating at the city's main hub, the Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna station, while also creating a multimodal transport hub at the last metro station on Tumakuru Road. This arrangement would ensure seamless transfers between intercity trains, the metro, and city bus services, maximising convenience for passengers without duplicating costs.

Plans for network extension to Tumakuru defy design fundamentals, overlook a strong alternative

In contrast, the metro extension plan is riddled with uncertainties. The BMRCL itself has admitted that extending operations into rural areas would necessitate new legislation and compliance with multiple regulations. At a time when metro expansion within Bengaluru city limits is lagging, with commuters waiting for completion of delayed lines, there is no justification for diverting over Rs 20,000 crore towards a misapplied intercity metro. The government should instead channel its energies into a modern commuter rail system that meets the mobility needs of Tumakuru's citizens.

GRIDLOCKED CITY

Bengaluru's congestion calls for a system fix

Mobility reform cannot be reactive. It is a long game that takes foresight and perseverance

MADHAV PAI AND PAWAN MULUKUTLA

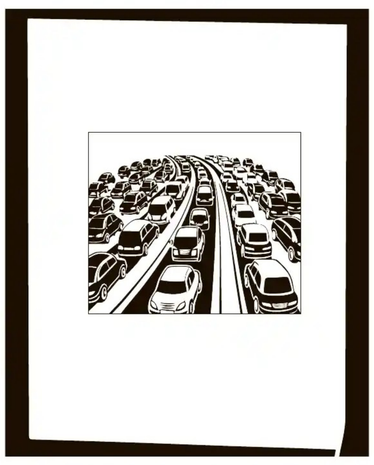
Bengaluru, one of the fastest-growing cities globally, is projected to achieve a GDP growth rate of 8.5% over the course of the decade. The city's rise is driven by its core strength of being a renowned innovation hub, with its leading Global Capability Centres, start-ups, biotech and R&D landscape that attract talent and investment from across the world. This growth and dynamism also present a conundrum: jobs, population and vehicles have multiplied faster than the city's ability to move people, making mobility Bengaluru's Achilles' Heel.

So far, the city has grappled with rising congestion in a reactive way, wherein we have not really addressed underlying structural imbalances while continuing to focus on quick fixes. Last year's Tom Tom Index ranked Bengaluru as the city with the third-worst traffic in the world, leading to losses of about Rs 19,725 crore annually owing to loss of time and resources spent while navigating traffic. In August 2025 alone, Bengaluru added 58,913 private vehicles to its already choked roads. With more than 1.06 crore private two-wheelers and cars, our transport infrastructure is rapidly spiralling into permanent gridlock. For instance, on stretches like the Outer Ring Road and Sarjapur Road, the volume-to-capacity ratio ranges from 2.0 to 3.5, signifying traffic loads two to three times higher than the designed capacity, leading to constantly congested roads.

In the short term, the city must first fix the basics: smooth carriageways, pothole-free roads, bypasses, synchronised traffic signals and retrofitted junction designs that allow traffic and pedestrians to flow freely. Employers across Bengaluru should embrace staggered work hours, flexible schedules and work-from-home options to ensure all our roads are not choked all at once.

Parallelly, a Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) must be initiated, backed by household travel surveys, volume counts, and origin-destination surveys that can indicate how people move and where. This will help us identify where bottlenecks persist and where targeted interventions will be the most impactful.

The sustainable solution, however, lies in addressing the root causes that lead to these bottlenecks with a long-term and multi-pronged approach. Bengaluru has rightly invested in expanding its public transport over the past decade as a strategy to reduce congestion. Currently, 96.1 km of metro lines are operational, while 79.44 km are under construction. While the metro network expands, the city's bus services have remained fairly stagnant over the past decade and they too, are stuck in the same gridlocks as private vehicles, significantly limiting their ridership potential. For a global tech capital, the lack of full digitisation in bus operations and planning reflects a glaring mismatch between potential and practice.



To transform its mobility system and fully realise the benefits of public transport investments, Bengaluru must get three key things right:

1. Ensure robust last-mile services. The metro lines that have already been approved but are languishing under 'work in progress' for years need to be urgently fast-tracked, alongside higher-frequency bus routes, especially along the peripheries, that can absorb rising demand. Reliable feeder services to mass transit can improve ridership considerably. Alongside, high-footfall corridors should have pedestrian subways that allow safe crossings and universal accessibility to ease crowding. Also, long overdue in the city are shared mobility reforms that can ensure that these solutions remain an attractive last-mile option for commuters.

2. Build secondary and tertiary networks. Area development in peripheral zones must embed secondary and tertiary road networks from the start, so growth is supported by planned infrastructure rather than by building flyovers as an afterthought. For instance, Jayanagar has a well-developed secondary and tertiary road network, with a road density of 23 km per sq km, compared to just 8 km per sq km in Whitefield. Expanding these networks in a phased manner over the next decade (particularly in high-congestion areas) will be critical to maintaining smooth traffic flow.

Bengaluru will need to develop an ambitious, phased plan to complete the missing links in the road network that act as barriers to vehicular circulation and access. This includes providing access through private thoroughfares where necessary. Expanding these networks requires not just engineering but careful urban planning. Land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement are essential components to be considered to minimise the human cost of development. Acquiring land involves negotiating with multiple stakeholders and navigating legal complexities. Cities such as Mumbai and Ahmedabad demonstrate that it is possible to balance these priorities if we plan comprehensively and execute seamlessly.

3. Manage parking efficiently. Across the city, vehicles are frequently parked illegally on footpaths, cycle lanes, and in front of bus stops, hindering pedestrian movement, causing traffic jams, and creating safety risks. It's time we move from passive and weak enforcement of parking regulations to active management of parking demand. Urban local bodies should consider parking management as one of their key functions and deliver parking services systematically and efficiently.

Additionally, parking can no longer remain subsidised; pricing it rationally will discourage unnecessary private vehicle trips and make public transport the more attractive choice for commuters.

With induced and latent demand, incremental solutions like building new flyovers will only yield diminishing results. Solving Bengaluru's mobility gridlock is a long-term game that requires foresight, patience, and a multi-pronged approach with the ability to take bold decisions. Bengaluru requires a shared willingness from all stakeholders to come together, build consensus, and pursue solutions relentlessly, no matter how complex or challenging they may appear. If Bengaluru aims to remain a competitive and attractive global destination, it must address its transportation challenges in a methodical and coordinated manner, and it must do it now.

(Madhav is CEO, WRI India. Pawan is Executive Director – integrated transport, clean air and hydrogen, Sustainable Cities Programme, at WRI India)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

When the path bends

A ban on bike taxis stalled the commute, but not the journey to independence

SHASHIKALA M S

Sam is 17. He is autistic, with a mild intellectual disability, and he has a sparkle in his eye when he learns something new. For the past four years, he has been coming to our learning centre, where we try to equip young adults like him with skills to help them earn a livelihood. But our focus has always been broader: not just jobs, but dignity, independence, and a place in society where they are seen as contributors.

One of the biggest milestones we celebrated was his commute. His mother would book him a Rapido bike every morning, and we would receive him at the centre. At the end of the day, the routine was reversed. For Sam, this was no small task. He had to memorise the OTP, tell the driver, and hop onto the bike with confidence. It worked beautifully—Sam enjoyed the ride, the parents found it affordable, and we were thrilled that he was inching towards independent living.

This year, the target was bigger: to teach him to use the ride-hailing app himself. The logic was simple—if he could book his own ride, he could commute independently, a first step towards holding a job and being truly self-reliant. For Sam and others like him, such skills are gateways to inclusion, reducing dependence on family for every small activity.

But then came the blow. Overnight, bike taxis were banned in Bengaluru. The reason may have been regulatory or political, but for us, it cut short a young man's journey towards autonomy. Autos are too expensive for daily rides, buses are too unreliable, and the Metro doesn't reach his part of the city yet. The small, sturdy bridge we had built towards independence collapsed without warning.

Working with young people like Sam teaches you that independence is not a single leap but a slow, fragile climb. Every skill is painstakingly taught and reinforced: how to cross a road safely, handle money, greet strangers, and manage phones. Each of these is a ticket to being accepted as part of the community. Yet, all it takes is one sudden policy or one gap in infrastructure to snatch away the fragile gains.

For parents of children with autism, the deepest worry is: What after us? The dream is to see them live with dignity, travel on their own, and find socially valued roles. But the world outside often forgets to make space for them.

Sam still comes to the centre, dropped off by his mother. He continues to learn, and we continue to hope. Independence, after all, is not a straight road—it winds, halts, and sometimes begins again. What matters is that we keep walking, together.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ugly end to Asia Cup victory

When India gloriously won its ninth Asia Cup without losing a single match, what should have been an euphoric event ended in an ugly fashion. The Indian contingent was left waiting for an hour to receive the trophy, and even then, it was not handed over to them. This resulted in an empty show of gaiety and robbed the team of a victory parade it deserved. It was made clear from the beginning of the tournament that the team would refuse to receive the trophy from Pakistan if it won. Pakistan's Interior Minister, Mohsin Naqvi, Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board and President of the Asian Cricket Council, insisted that it was his right to hand over the trophy. That there is no written rule or convention that the ACC boss should present the silverware is beside the point. This also raises an important point as to why, knowing that Pakistan is a sponsor of terrorism, India made a serious error of judgement in playing against Pakistan. Clearly, in the end, our players were made the victims of our politics.

H R Bapu Satyaanarayana, Mysuru

Stay vigilant

Apropos 'When spectacle politics turns deadly' (Sep 30), hero worship, adulation, and blind devotion to cult leaders have long been a norm in India's political culture. What makes this phenomenon more alarming is the callousness displayed by organisers, state machinery, and frenzied supporters who fail to anticipate the devastating consequences of overcrowded, mismanaged rallies. Civil society, too, remains largely silent as such events are repeatedly staged without adequate safeguards. Rarely are alarm bells sounded, and precautionary measures are seldom enforced. Every human tragedy should serve as a reminder for the public to stay vigilant and avoid storming into unsafe venues.

Albert Smith, Bengaluru

Upgrade school quality

Apropos 'Why state board isn't a preferred choice' (Sep 30), parents prefer private education boards such as ICSE, CBSE, IB, and NIOS over state board schools. If better infrastructure and facilities were provided in government schools, more parents would likely enrol their children in state board institutions. While the provision of meals and study materials in government schools is a positive approach to attract rural and urban poor, the inadequacy of teaching faculty stunts students' learning calibre. It must focus on improving pedagogy.

J A Nathan, Bengaluru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

I said, tariff is my favourite word. I love the word tariff. You know, we're becoming rich as hell.... We're rich, rich again. And when we finish this out, there'll never be any wealth like what we have.

Donald Trump, US President

Where wealth accumulates, men decay.

Oliver Goldsmith

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

India combats an air power crunch

The MiG-21 era has ended. Delays in indigenous programmes and procurement deals add to the drag

GRP CAPT A K SACHDEV (RETD)

With the retirement of the MiG-21 formalised in Chandigarh on Friday, a longish chapter in the history of the Indian Air Force (IAF) has been concluded. The withdrawal of the last of the MiG-21s also highlights the stark shortage of combat aircraft in the IAF. In the hazy past, the collective wisdom of a Parliamentary Committee had arrived at the figure of 42 squadrons as the need of the IAF. However, this figure was never reached. The highest ever was 41, for a short period in the 1990s. The current squadron tally stands at 29.

Operation Sindoor saw the IAF lead the short and swift conflict, inflicting severe damage to Pakistan's air assets as well as air defence installations. This suggests that future engagements with Pakistan may again invoke the IAF to be the lead player so that a strategic restraint is maintained while engaging Pakistani targets effectively in the air and on the ground. The IAF and the analysts agree that a squadron of 29 is inadequate for the IAF's current roles and tasks, which include the responsibility of air defence of Indian territory and its territorial waters.

Operation Sindoor also highlighted the threat of collusion between China and Pakistan; the possibility of a two-front war is even more daunting, and the shortage of combat aircraft, that much more distressing. Yet another challenge is the government's march towards theatrisation, a dispensation that will disperse IAF's assets under theatres with defined geographical areas of responsibility. The IAF understands the implications of deploying combat aircraft under diverse commands and at dispersed bases. Again, the focus shifts back to the dire shortfall of combat aircraft.

The current need of the IAF is far more than even the sanctioned strength of 42. Considering all the above reasons, there is a cogitation underway to consider IAF's long-standing demands for raising the sanctioned strength. But where are they going to come from?

Let us start with indigenous endeavours. The MiG-21 was inducted in 1963, and by the 1980s, the IAF projected a need to replace it. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) launched the Tejas programme in 1983, aimed at developing a 4th-generation fighter by the 1990s. The Tejas Mk1A is projected to have 40-odd improvements over the Mk1, including in sophisticated radars and weaponry. The first Tejas Mk1A is yet to be delivered to the IAF. Until March this year, the delay was attributed to General Electric, the US engine supplier, not being able to deliver the engines on time. Since then, the first three engines have reached HAL (one each in March, July, and September). The defence PSU has announced plans for 12 Tejas Mk1A during this financial year, but the history of timelines tells us to temper expectations.

Another wake-up call

Tejas Mk2 is a different kettle of fish altogether. It is reasonable to presume that the delays with the advanced aircraft would be at least as frustrating for the IAF as it was for Tejas Mk1/1A. The next indigenous venture in the making is the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), a complex programme with no projected date of induction in the visible time horizon.

So where does that leave us? Regrettably, with no other choice except for fighters from a foreign manufacturer. Indeed, this was more or less apparent in 2007, and a procurement programme called Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) was launched. After a painstaking selection process from amongst seven contenders, the French Dassault Rafale was selected in 2012, but in 2015, the government scrapped the deal. Instead, the next year, 36 Rafales were purchased in a government-to-government deal with France.

The inanity of the MMRCA termination was evident from the fact that in 2018, a new procurement programme called Multi Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) was initiated. There are currently eight contenders, including Rafale F-4, an advanced version. However, the MRFA programme also seems to be moving at a snail's pace that is not commensurate with the IAF's needs for advanced fighters.

A pigeon cooing outside your window can keep you awake, but the sound of a window air conditioner – humming at a much higher decibel level – permits you to sleep because it is continual, and the mind learns to accept it as background noise. The nation has, for long, ignored the IAF's continual calls for combat aircraft, and it is used to them as background noise. Now is the time to wake up to them.

(The writer is an IAF veteran)

Gandhi's legacy: How non-violence shaped global movements

MICHAEL PATRAO

International Day of Non-Violence has been commemorated on October 2 since 2007 in honour of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, celebrated as Gandhi Jayanthi. It aims at acknowledging his novel modes of mass mobilisation in commitment to the principle of ahimsa.

It was Mahatma Gandhi who changed the very way political and other protests were organised with non-violence, or ahimsa, as the single most important principle. Non-violence coupled with civil disobedience helped end British rule in India, and this successful model has influenced modern civil disobedience movements across the world. The Dalai Lama and many others were inspired by his teachings and made a change without inciting violence. Since the 1940s many individuals and movements have adopted Gandhi's principles.

In 1940-45, during the Second World War, the Norwegian Civil Disobedience by the students of Oslo University resisted the fascist power. The protesters sustained the momentum by distributing pamphlets and various written texts on non-violence and also by creating 'an ice face', which means refusing to sit next to German soldiers in public transport and refusing to speak German, which was prevalent as a common language.

Nelson Mandela, called the African Gandhi, followed the timeless philosophy of Gandhiji and learnt that non-violence was the best weapon to fight discrimination and brutality and establish social justice. The African National Congress and allied anti-apartheid groups carried out non-violent resistance against racial segregation and apartheid in South Africa.

Martin Luther King Jr, the American civil rights leader, was inspired by Gandhi's philosophy to advocate for racial equality and justice in the United States through non-violent means. King came to India in 1959 and visited several places, which consolidated his commitment to nonviolent civil disobedience. He popularised Gandhian ideas in the U.S. and across the world.

The African American Civil Rights Movement led by King against racial segregation in southern states was a non-violent resistance that included bus boycotts, sit-ins and mass demonstrations. The movement succeeded in bringing about legislative changes that made racial segregation illegal.

A series of non-violent and peaceful protests rages throughout 1968 in the US, Europe and elsewhere. University campuses became frontline battlegrounds for social change. While opposition to the Vietnam War dominated the protests, students also campaigned for civil liberty and against racism and feminism, and the beginning of the ecological movement can also be traced to protests against nuclear and biological weapons.

The Fight for the Larzac, a region in France, was a non-violent civil disobedience action by local farmers resisting the extension of a military base on the Larzac plateau. The farmers organised themselves to persist the government effort non-violently. The decision to expand the military base was resolved after 10 years of resistance from 1970 to 1981, which was absolutely non-violent.

The Iranian Revolution of 1979 was a non-violent resistance against the prevalent political regime that finally led to the overthrow of Iran's monarchy under Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

In the 1980s, Solidarity, a broad anti-authoritarian social movement in Poland, used methods of civil resistance to advance the causes of workers' rights and social change.

The non-violent People Power Revolution led to the departure of Ferdinand Marcos in 1986, the end of his 20-year dictatorship and the restoration of democracy in the Philippines. The movement gained momentum because of massive human rights violations, election fraud, political corruption and other abuses by the Marcos regime.

During the 1987 to 1990 period, the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia sustained the unique Singing Revolution. This was a cycle of mass demonstrations featuring spontaneous singing in the Baltic states. The protesters sang national songs and hymns which were strictly forbidden during the years of the Soviet occupation of the Baltic states. During the movement, people acted as human shields to protect radio and TV stations from the Soviet tanks. These states attained independence without bloodshed.

During the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia, the people responded to the attack on their sovereignty with passive resistance called the Velvet Revolution, so called due to its peaceful and non-violent nature during the transition from a communist regime to a democratic government in late 1989. It involved mass protests and civil disobedience, led by figures like Václav Havel, without any armed conflict. Russian troops were frustrated as street signs were painted over; their water supply was mysteriously shut off; buildings were decorated with flowers, flags and slogans like "An elephant cannot swallow a hedgehog."

The Monday Demonstrations between 1989 and 1990 were a series of peaceful protests against the authoritarian government of the German Democratic Republic of the erstwhile East Germany that took place every Monday evening. The revolution led to the downfall of the existing government.

The Tunisian Movement of 2011 was a series of mass non-violent demonstrations against unemployment and government corruption. It led to the downfall of the government in power. The movement was triggered by the self-immolation of the vegetable seller, Mohammed Bouzizi, which became the rallying point of the protestors challenging the authority of the president who ruled Tunisia for 24 years. Also, in 2011 the Egyptian protest movement that began on March 15 led to the downfall of the three-decade-old Mubarak regime.

There have been a few instances in the past when violent movements have resulted in a pyrrhic victory. As against this, most non-violent movements have been long, persistent and consistent, but finally truth and justice have prevailed. This time-tested strategy of Mahatma Gandhi has never failed.

In US President Donald Trump's plan, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu got almost everything he hoped for in the end, despite mounting international isolation

DAVID M HALBFINGER AND AARON BOXERMAN

US President Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel outside the White House in Washington on Monday. NYT

The US proposal is built on Israel's terms, Gaza's despair

Heading into their meeting on Monday, the question was whether President Trump would apply enough pressure on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel to end the war in Gaza.

Ultimately, Netanyahu got almost everything he could have hoped from Trump's proposal — a demand that Hamas release the hostages immediately and lay down its weapons, without which Israel would have carte blanche to keep pummeling Gaza.

As for Israeli troops, they would get to remain in Gaza's perimeter for the foreseeable future. There was such a stinting nod to the aspiration of statehood for Palestinians that the proposal all but suggested they just keep dreaming. And the Palestinian Authority would be left playing no role in Gaza anytime soon.

It was a rare moment of triumph that showed Netanyahu could still get much — if not all — of what he wanted despite Israel's mounting international isolation. Just last week, several European countries recognized a Palestinian state over Israeli objections, while a diplomatic walkout left Netanyahu addressing a mostly empty room at the United Nations.

On Monday afternoon, standing alongside Trump, Netanyahu praised the US-backed plan as fulfilling his own conditions for ending the war with Hamas. And Arab and Muslim governments, including the Palestinian Authority, appeared ready to fall in line.

As for Hamas, it would have no say at all in the future governance of the Gaza Strip, making explicit what had been left vague in earlier attempts at ending the conflict.

Still, the group and its leadership have been so decimated by the war, and it faces so much apparent pressure from Muslim countries including its patrons in Qatar and Turkey, that its acquiescence is not impossible to imagine.

Hamas's leaders now must decide whether to accept Trump's plan, negotiate its terms or reject it outright. All the options carry serious risks for the Palestinian armed group, which has managed to survive two years of an Israeli onslaught by fighting a dogged insurgency.

Hamas would struggle to accept a deal that would amount to surrendering its rule in Gaza, but brushing off a clear path to ending the conflict would risk further angering Palestinians who have lived through nearly two nightmarish years of killing and devastation. Some Gazans accuse Hamas of fighting a war for its own political survival at their expense.

Ibrahim Madhoun, a Palestinian analyst close to Hamas, said the Trump plan was "based on excluding Hamas," making it difficult for the group to accept. Hamas officials have previously said key elements, such as surrendering their weapons, would be a red line.

Hamas could still agree to the proposal — or at least accept it as a basis for negotiations — to end the war, he said. But many of the plan's 20 other points were downright unclear, meaning that they would require protracted talks to hammer out, he added.

"Each clause is such a minefield as to require its own separate agreement," . Madhoun said.

After hearing the terms of the proposal, Mahmoud Abu Matar, a 27-year-old sheltering in central Gaza, said a vast majority of Palestinians living there would most likely support the deal so as to put an immediate end to the violence.

"We don't want any more war and bloodshed," he said. "The ball is now in Hamas's court."

Some of the most important players in the Trump-Netanyahu vision for Gaza did not speak at the White House on Monday. Among them were Arab and Muslim nations that have offered to provide troops or funding for a peacekeeping force to provide security in Gaza, including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates.

Those countries had laid down clear conditions for their postwar involvement, including that Israel fully withdraw from Gaza and commit to a pathway to a Palestinian state. They also stipulated that the Palestinian Authority must invite them to Gaza, so they would be seen as supporting the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people rather than as another occupying power.

The plan outlined by Trump and Netanyahu met none of those conditions. Not only would Israel retain a security buffer inside Gaza's borders, but the multinational peacekeeping force would also take possession of territory directly from the Israeli military. The Palestinian Authority, for its part, would be cut out of the picture until it so completely reformed itself that Mr. Netanyahu scoffed at the prospect as a "miraculous transformation" unlikely to happen.

As for a Palestinian state, the proposal said only that as Gaza is rebuilt, "the conditions may finally be in place for a credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood" — if the Palestinian Authority's reform program "is faithfully carried out." Yet nothing was said about who would determine this or how.

As favourable as the proposal appeared to Netanyahu, it did entail concessions that he could find politically costly to make. The references to Palestinian statehood someday, the encouragement that Palestinians remain in Gaza and the flat rejection of Israeli annexation of Gaza "completely shatter the far right's dreams," Nadav Eyal, a columnist for *Yedioth Ahronoth*, a centrist Israeli newspaper, wrote on Tuesday.

The foreign ministers of eight Arab or Muslim-majority countries offered a qualified embrace of the Trump-Netanyahu proposal in a joint statement early Tuesday, affirming their readiness to cooperate with it. They made it clear, however, that they still insisted on a "full Israeli withdrawal" and on the establishment of "a just peace on the basis of the two-state solution, under which Gaza is fully integrated with the West Bank in a Palestinian state."

To Nimrod Novik, a veteran Israeli peace negotiator and envoy for former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, that "yes, but" was unsurprising.

"We could be in for very prolonged negotiations during which the war goes on, the hostages are at risk, Palestinians die and the ball — in terms of the need to argue with Trump — is in the Arab court," Novik said.

More surprisingly, the Arab ministers said nothing about the Palestinian Authority.

Without any role planned for it in Gaza, the Palestinian Authority nonetheless welcomed Trump's "sincere and determined efforts" to end the war and affirmed its "confidence in his ability to find a path toward peace." It went on to say that it wanted "a modern, democratic and nonmilitarized Palestinian state."

The PA also said that it was committed to changing textbooks that critics say demonise Israel and to abolishing the payment of stipends to Palestinian prisoners and their families. It said it would invite international scrutiny of those changes.

That response showed how much has changed since 2020, when Trump released a peace plan for the overall Israeli-Palestinian conflict that was similarly skewed toward Israel's preferences. Back then, in an American election year, the PA rejected Trump's proposal out of hand, and he was voted out of office that November.

Today, the PA is being allowed by Trump to cling to the hope of a future for itself. Hamas is not.

Meanwhile, nearly two years into the war in Gaza, American support for Israel has undergone a seismic reversal, with large shares of voters expressing starkly negative views about the Israeli government's management of the conflict, a new poll from *The New York Times* and Siena University found.

Disapproval of the war appears to have prompted a striking reassessment by American voters of their broader sympathies in the decades-old conflict in the region, with slightly more voters siding with Palestinians over Israelis for the first time since The Times began asking voters about their sympathies in 1998.

The New York Times

The PhD conundrum in architecture

K S ANANTHA KRISHNA

For too long, academic research in architecture and other design fields has played second fiddle to practical application and groundbreaking design. Unlike the sciences, which prioritise rigorous scholarship, the arts have historically favoured professional practice. This difference has made the integration of robust PhD programmes into architectural education complex and often challenging.

The journey of the PhD in architecture in India began hesitantly in the 1970s, with IIT-Kharagpur and IIM-Bangalore taking the lead. The real surge, however, came in the 1990s and 2000s, when the University Grants Commission (UGC) mandated doctorates for senior academic positions.

This sudden demand created an imbalance. Aspiring scholars multiplied, but qualified guides were scarce. Senior architecture professors unfamiliar with research were pressed into guiding roles, while students were handed guides from allied fields such as urban planning, civil engineering, or even mechanical engineering. The results were predictable: a decline in academic rigour. In one shocking case, a university even permitted a candidate to "self-guide" due to a lack of supervisors. Many early PhDs were mere compilations of data, devoid of new knowledge creation.

Today, many Indian universities offer PhDs in architecture, but quality remains a persistent concern. Most candidates are faculty members who pursue doctorates primarily for career advancement rather than curiosity. Juggling teaching, administrative duties, and family responsibilities, they are seldom able to devote the time rigorous research demands.

Professors, permitted to guide up to eight PhD scholars, are similarly overburdened. When their specialisations do not match student topics, topics are often chosen for convenience rather than professional or societal relevance. This disconnect leaves practising architects largely indifferent to PhD research. Much of the work ends up gathering dust in libraries.

The prescribed coursework for PhD candidates – covering methodology and ethics -- often fails in practice. Methodology, crucial for designing a study, is sometimes treated as an afterthought. One guide, during a viva, openly admitted they would "decide on it [methodology] as we proceed". Ethics, vital for scientific integrity, is often reduced to a subject to pass. Plagiarism, inappropriate influence, and poor discipline are alarmingly common. Domain subjects fare no better: some universities even allow students to repeat master's-level courses, defeating the purpose of doctoral study.

Data collection, a cornerstone of research, suffers too. Topics are selected for convenience, gaps between required and gathered data are ignored, and misrepresentation to achieve "expected results" is common. Sampling methods are often chosen for ease and wrongly presented as robust, undermining reliability.

Evaluation processes are equally weak. Doctoral Review Committees often comprise only internal members, including the guide, leaving no scope for independent scrutiny. Guides may suggest "soft" examiners, while low honoraria discourage competent experts. Unsurprisingly, glaring errors slip through, and rejections are rare.

The final defence, ideally a rigorous intellectual exercise, is often reduced to formality. Candidates often bear external examiner expenses, creating conflicts of interest. Audiences – usually colleagues --tend to be uncritical, further diluting the process.

Despite hundreds of doctorates since the 1970s, their impact on teaching and practice remains minimal. Experimental research, vital for understanding cause-and-effect, is rare due to poor laboratory infrastructure.

Addressing these issues requires a multi-pronged reform:

Focus on utility: Universities must prioritise the professional and societal value of a PhD, not just numbers.

Aptitude-based entry: Only candidates with genuine research aptitude should gain admission.

Enhanced infrastructure: Laboratory and digital resources must be strengthened to support experimental research.

Dedicated study leave: Faculty should receive paid study leave to commit fully to research.

Independent review: Committees must include external experts to ensure unbiased evaluation and avoid inbreeding.

Fair examiner compensation: Universities, not candidates, should cover expenses, with proper remuneration for examiners.

Mandatory publication: Requiring publication in Scopus-indexed journals would bring impartial peer review and raise standards.

If implemented, these measures could transform architectural PhDs from perfunctory degrees into meaningful contributions that advance knowledge, address professional challenges, and earn a rightful place in the academic and professional landscape.

(The writer is Professor Emeritus at the Gopalan School of Architecture and Planning, Bengaluru)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: OCTOBER 1975

Foreign influence on India varsities vexes PM

New Delhi, September 30
Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today expressed concern at the "considerable and subtle influences" working in the country's universities and other institutions of higher learning and said quite often they are foreign influences. Inaugurating a two-day conference of Vice-Chancellors here, Mrs. Gandhi said, "When we talk of foreign influences, it is that there is a subtle attempt against our nationalism."

25 YEARS AGO: OCTOBER 2000

Mamata, Panja quit

Calcutta, Sept 30
The Atal Behari Vajpayee-led NDA government today received its maiden shock of coalition politics after its partner Trinamool Congress suddenly decided to pull out of the ministry.
Both the Railway Minister, Ms Mamata Banerjee, and the Minister of State for the External Affairs, Mr Ajit Panja, put in their papers this evening in protest against the "unilateral" decision of the government to effect a steep hike in prices of petro products last night.

OASIS | LEELA RAMASWAMY

Keep your face to the sun

'Keep your face to the sun and you cannot see a shadow'. These imperishable words are attributed to Helen Keller, who lost her vision and hearing when she was 19 months old. They prove, as few other things can, that given the will, every human being can gain the ability to overcome adversities and never lose hope.

Life is full of adversities, both small and big. Just one moment to stare at the new arrival in the store can make you late and invite the wrath of your superiors. The late arrival of your maid can load you with unexpected chores. An unexpected traffic snarl can make you arrive late at the office. Similar such happenings can bring on frustration and anger. Inevitably the angry mood lasts and is passed on to others. It darkens the day and ruins it. Indeed worse can ensue with quarrels, accidents or death.

The good news is that we can give up the anger and sorrow and retain a calm outlook. We can choose to control our emotions and decide to face misfortune with calm and composure. In other words, we choose not to react but to respond. This is a free choice. No one can ever take this blessing away from us. We can choose to be depressed or afraid, but just as easily be happy and confident.

Of course, this is not as easy as it sounds. The remedy lies exploring our emotions and finding out how important the issue is. The questions to ask are, 'Have I hurt or harmed anyone?, Have I denied justice?'. If the answer is 'no', there is no need for anxiety. All challenges in life can be met by learning to keep the mind calm instead of despairing. Note that between thought and action there is a small space. During this time, we can practice to be kind and compassionate. We need to keep in mind that often, the other could be having troubles and worries of his own! It happens very often in this unpredictable world of ours. The repeated practice of this attitude makes it second nature to us. Though we are human, this outlook can light up the world and make it a better place to live in!

Discrepancy in amount mentioned on cheque 'fatal': Supreme Court

Says amount covered by dishonoured cheque is one of main ingredients of offence under NI Act

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court has said incorrect mentioning of the amount or even a typographical error would be fatal to the legality of notice in cheque dishonour cases, given the need for strict mandatory compliance under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

In a recent judgment, a bench of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice N V Anjaria said it is mandatory that the demand in the statutory notice has to be the very amount of the cheque.

"Even if the cheque details are mentioned in the notice, but the corresponding amount of cheque is not correctly mentioned, it would not bring in law the validity for such notice. Here, the principle of reading of notice as a whole is inapplicable and irrelevant. Any elasticity cannot be adopted in the interpretation. It has to be given technical interpretation," the bench said, upholding the quashing of a case.

Appellant Kaveri Plastics contended in the notice sent under Proviso (b) to Section 138 of the NI Act, mentioning of wrong amount in the cheque was in the nature of a typographical or inadvertent error.

It said the court ought to have looked at the substance of the matter rather than becoming technical. The offence under Section 138 of the NI Act is essentially a civil wrong in the attire of a criminal offence, the technicality should not be allowed to prevail, the appellant said.

The court pointed out the amount covered by the dishonoured cheque is one of the main ingredients of the offence under Section 138 of the NI Act. If the main ingredient is not satisfied on account of discrepancy in the amount of cheque and one mentioned in the notice, all proceedings under Section 138 of the NI Act would fall flat as bad in law, it held.

The amount of cheque issued by accused No 1- M/s Nafto Gaz India Private Limited and its Directors was Rs 1 crore, but the appellant in statutory notice demanded Rs 2 crore.

The court held when the cheque amount is not mentioned in the Proviso (b) notice or the amount different from the actual cheque amount, such notice would stand invalid in the eyes of law.

The notice in terms of Proviso (b), being a provision in a penal statute and a condition for the offence, it has to be precise while mentioning the amount of the cheque which is dishonoured, the bench said.

ED conducts searches in FEMA probe against Reliance Infra

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday conducted searches in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh as part of a FEMA investigation being conducted against Anil Ambani Group company Reliance Infrastructure, official sources said.

At least six premises of some linked entities in Mumbai and Mhow in Indore were searched, they said.

The surprise action was part of a Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) investigation being conducted against Reliance Infrastructure on charges of making some illegal remittances abroad, they said.

The company said in a statement that the ED action was in relation to a matter "dating back 15 years". "In 2010, the company had awarded an EPC contract for the construction of the JR Toll Road (Jaipur Ringus Highway) to Prakash Asphaltings & Toll Highways."

"This was a domestic contract with no foreign exchange involved," it said in a statement. The work was completed and firm has no continuing relationship with the said contractor. The toll road is with the NHAI for the last 4 years, Reliance Infra said.

The ED has already been investigating alleged financial irregularities and collective loan "diversion" pegged at more than Rs 17,000 crore by multiple group companies of Anil Ambani.

Bihar to use AI for road safety, maintenance: Minister

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Bihar will use artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning to ensure pothole-free roads and the safety of bridges across the state, Road Construction Minister Nitin Navin has said.

Talking to *DH*, the state minister said that the third phase of the Output and Performance-based Road Maintenance Contract (OPRMC) initiative would be launched in 2026 for seven years.

The initiative was first introduced in 2014 for five years. The second phase, which started in 2019, is underway. The scope of monitoring has been successively widened, and now the government is eyeing to tap modern technology to enhance effectiveness and accountability.

In the third phase, the length of the roads under the OPRMC monitoring system is proposed to be increased to 20,000 km from 4,500 km in the first phase and 12,000 km in the second phase. The third phase will cover all the major roads developed by the state government, including state highways and district roads.

However, it will not be applicable to the National Highways, which are developed and maintained by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

Bihar, which has been in the news for frequent incidents of bridge collapses in the past couple of years, has outlined plans to prepare digital health records of around 3,900 bridges. "There will be a QR code for all small and big bridges. Just by scanning the QR code, you will be able to see all the records like year of construction, maintenance status, etc," Navin said.

The Chief Minister Nitish Kumar-led government has formulated a new policy called 'Bihar State Bridge Management and Maintenance Policy, 2025' to enhance the safety and efficiency of state-maintained bridges. The state government has also partnered with IIT Delhi and IIT Patna for conducting safety audits of the bridges.

Uttar Pradesh ATS arrests four for plotting attacks on Hindu leaders

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

The Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) of the Uttar Pradesh police has arrested four members of 'Mujahidin Aramy', a radical outfit, who had allegedly planned to kill Hindu religious leaders, disturb communal harmony, and spread radical ideology in the state.

The alleged members of the outfit were arrested from different parts of the state, according to sources on Tuesday.

A senior ATS official said they had received intelligence inputs that some people, under the influence of Pakistan-based extremist outfits, were conspiring to destabilise the democratically elected government in the state and implement the rule of 'shariat' (Islamic law). For that purpose, they had been holding meetings at various locations.

"These people had formed social media groups in which they sent inflammatory audio and video messages to incite others," he added.

The arrested youths were trying to recruit others into their outfit and had plans to target senior Hindu religious leaders. Those arrested were identified as Safeel Salmani, a resident of Sonbhadra district; Akmal Raza, a resident of Sultanpur district; Tousif, a Kanpur resident; and Qasim Ali from Rampur district.

The ATS sources said that Akmal had formed a group called 'Mashwara', in which he posted anti-India messages. Akmal and others also circulated fake videos in the group, purportedly showing atrocities against Muslims in the country, sources said.

The ATS did not rule out further arrests, stating that investigations are ongoing and that authorities are trying to identify other members of the outfit.

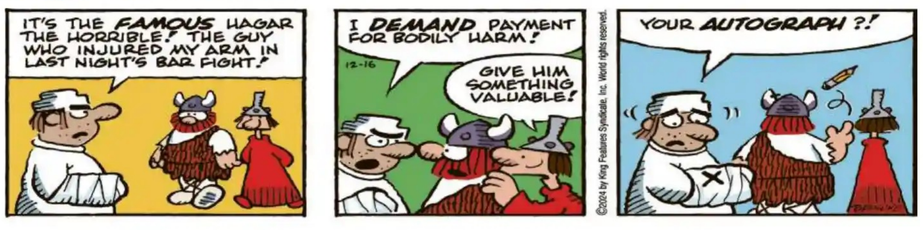
MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

BOSS, WHY DID YOU WRITE AN "F" ON MY REPORT BEFORE PUTTING IT BACK ON MY DESK?
I FIGURED IF YOU WERE GOING TO TURN IN A REPORT THAT CHILDISH, YOU SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE A CHILD, KIDDO
HOW WAS WORK, HONEY?
ALL I'LL SAY IS THE BOSS IS A BIG OL' STINKY MEANY PANTS!

Hagar The Horrible


IT'S THE FAMOUS HAGAR THE HORRIBLE! THE GUY WHO INJURED MY ARM IN LAST NIGHT'S BAR FIGHT!
I DEMAND PAYMENT FOR BODILY HARM!
GIVE HIM SOMETHING VALUABLE!
YOUR AUTOGRAPH?!

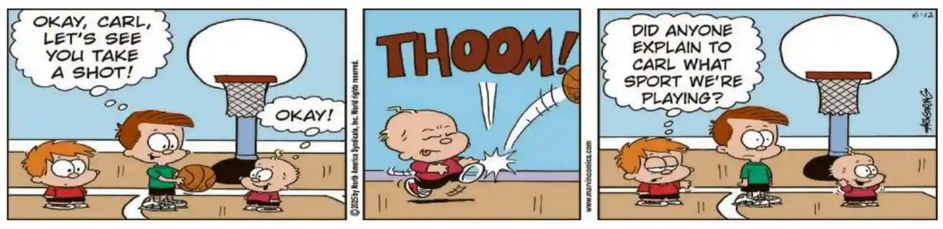
Beetle Bailey

HE'S "CHEF OF THE YEAR"?! YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!
READ THE FINE PRINT
CHEF OF THE YEAR
ONLY MILITARY COOKS COULD VOTE
SO THERE ARE OTHERS WORSE THAN COOKIE?!!
GREG + MORT WALKER
6/12

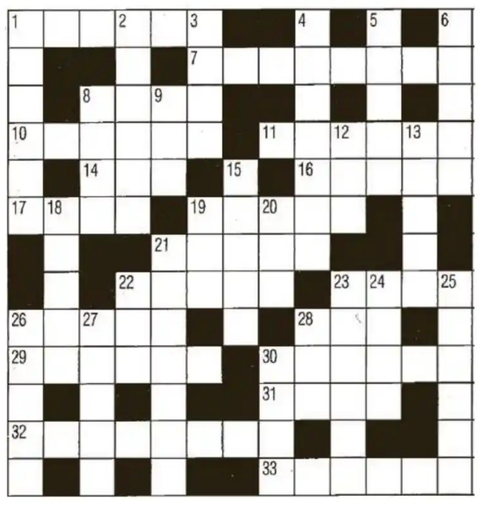
Peanuts

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL LOVE ME WHEN I'M OLD AND GRAY?
I DON'T KNOW
IF I DON'T LOVE YOU NOW, HOW CAN I LOVE YOU WHEN YOU'RE OLD AND GRAY?
WE'LL SEE!!

Marvin



CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12258



CRYPTIC

ACROSS

1. Make notes about a politician (containing something sweet) (3,3)
7 A visionary, is he one for details? (8)
8 The tedious fellow gives you a wave (4)
10 One who shoots out of sight (6)
11 Something between a knee and an ankle (6)
14 Shown the way out of an insoluble dilemma (3)
16 Thinks about heavenly females (5)
17 Cry, to a certain measure, on the 3rd of May (4)
19 No sub can be a bounty (5)
21 The boy I'm after for the tough stuff (5)
22 Rose and dressed (3,2)
23 Moved in less pedestrian fashion? (4)
26 Animal related to the vixen (5)
28 One that will make you feel short of money? (3)
29 A city in E. Hants (6)
30 Wild inlets can be pretty (6)
31 Being "way out" is no longer the thing (4)
32 Religiously put in a very good list (8)
33 Scandinavians' way to treat weeds (6)

DOWN

1 Royal potato source (6)
2 Force in favour of organising some help! (6)
3 Frontier line? (4)
4 At most, a skirt for mother (7)
5 Sign of a line ending at a terminus (5)
6 It's bound to have maps (5)
8 Bobby or the beak (4)
9 Colourful bit of square dancing (3)
12 The coach takes us to Birkenhead (3)
13 Don't wait for permission! (5)
15 There are a hundred and more such boys (3-2)
18 Too young to be a fat lady (5)
19 Little girl from Bethnal Green (3)
20 From a biting wind? (3)
21 Knocking over in the street (7)
22 An exclamation of huge enthusiasm (3)
23 So old, there seems nothing to look around for (6)
24 One calling for extremes of patience for a saint? (4)
25 Where, in 1963, all were in sad distress (6)
26 Impertinent in a tasteful way? (5)
27 Water, yet a fine rhyme for wine (5)
28 If upset, a kiss may mend things (3)
30 River as seen on golf courses (4)

ACROSS

1 Coils, spins (6)
7 Think carefully about (8)
8 Fish (4)
10 Make deeper (6)
11 Boy's name (6)
14 Falsehood (3)
16 Great fear (5)
17 Gentle (4)
19 Golf term (5)
21 Thin biscuit (5)
22 Fabric type (5)
23 Male voice (4)
26 Keen (5)
28 Embrace (3)
29 Easily bent (6)
30 One's professional life (6)
31 Second-hand (4)
32 Perforated pan (8)
33 Bursts out (6)

DOWN

1 Bicycle for two (6)
2 Simple-minded (6)
3 Look over quickly (4)
4 In pieces (7)
5 Love intensely (5)
6 Throng (5)
8 Let know (4)
9 Born (3)
12 Opposite of wet (3)
13 Noblemen (5)
15 Bulgarian capital (5)
18 Perfect (5)
19 Nocturnal mammal (3)
20 Information (3)
21 Advice to beware (7)
22 Body of water (3)
23 Writing desk (6)
24 Elderly (4)
25 Homeless dogs (6)
26 Era (5)
27 Breathing organs in fish (5)
28 Possesses (3)
30 Heal (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12257

CRYPTIC

ACROSS: 1, S-cr.-am 6, So-use 9, Bowling 10, In-G-ot 11, Ol-W-en 12, Crewe 13,Turn out 15, P-ip 17, Ari-D 18, Donate 19, Stern 20, T-ruth-s 22, Di-Al 24, Ye-p 25, Motion's 26, Sloo-P 27, Moral 28, Billy 29, Go-ahead 30, Ar-row 31,Terry.

DOWN: 2, Con-cur 3, A-bound 4, MOT 5, Flirt 6, Snowdon 7, Ogle 8, See f-it 12, C-ults 13,T-asty 14, Rig up 15, Patio 16, P-eels 18, Dr-O-op 19, Sh-all-ow 21, Re-no-ir 22, Divide 23, Angler 25, Mocha(r) 26, Sago 28, Bat.

EASY

ACROSS: 1, Ocean 6, Small 9, Riposte 10, Strap 11, Essay 12, Graph 13, Fall guy 15, Pea 17, Epee 18, Reform 19, Arson 20, Ground 22, Anne 24, Nun 25, Meander 26, Riser 27, Rogue 28, Ahead 29, Inferno 30, Grunt 31,Tries.

DOWN: 2, Catnap 3, Arable 4, Nip 5, Sorry 6, Stephen 7, Mesh 8, Loafer 12, Guard 13, Feign 14, Lemon 15, Pound 16, Amber 18, Rower 19, Ancient 21, Rumour 22, Anchor 23, Negate 25, Melee 26, Ruin 28, Ant.

◆SU-DO-KU-6715◆

							2	8
		2	5		3	1		9
		1	9			3		
7				6				
	1						4	
				5				2
		4			6	9		
9		5	3		1	2		
3	6							

hard

2	9	8	7	1	6	4	5	3
1	4	7	8	5	3	6	2	9
3	5	6	4	9	2	8	1	7
5	8	4	6	3	9	1	7	2
7	2	1	5	8	4	3	9	6
9	6	3	1	2	7	5	4	8
4	7	5	9	6	8	2	3	1
8	1	2	3	7	5	9	6	4
6	3	9	2	4	1	7	8	5

SOLUTION TO 6714

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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R1	A1	E1	U1	B3	G2	M3		Double Word Score
A1	E1	P3	G2	S1	A1	D2		
R1	O1	E1	M3	W4	O1	S1		Triple Word Score
A1	T1	U1	E1	Q10	R1	R1		Triple Word Score
L1	T1	E1	E1	A1	R1	H4		

RACK 1 RACK 2 RACK 3 RACK 4 RACK 5

PAR SCORE 180-190
by JUDD

FIVE RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

N1	O1	S1	E1	G2	A1	Y4	RACK 1	= 83
S1	U1	R1	G2	E1	S1		RACK 2	= 7
C3	A1	S1	A1	B3	A1	S1	RACK 3	= 67
S1	C3	A1	L1	P3	E1	D2	RACK 4	= 62

PAR SCORE 145-155 JUDD'S TOTAL 219

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SOTIJ

CDYAE

NMONIW

LFIEEB

Maybe if you weren't in such a hurry, you'd see you were going the wrong way.
What was that?
I don't know! It happened so fast.
PARKING
STOP
ONE WAY
AFTER ACCIDENTALLY DRIVING OVER THE TIRE SPIKES, THEIR FRONT TIRES LOST AIR IN ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FABLE HAVOC CUSTOM HEAVEN
Answer: When it came to funny moments on the Brady family sitcom, there were — A BUNCH OF THEM

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HITORI-3169

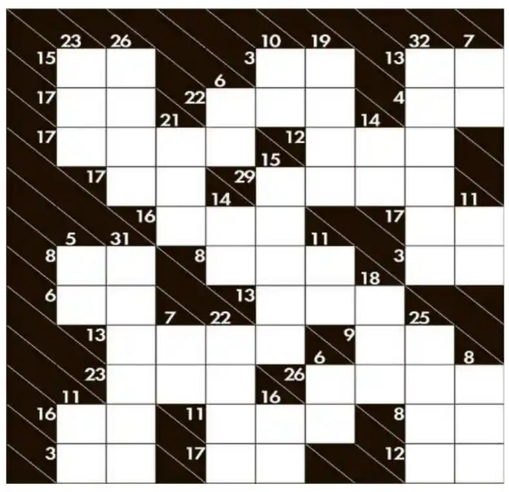
5	5	1	4	4	2	8	4
5	8	5	4	7	3	6	2
7	4	6	2	1	6	3	8
1	2	3	7	8	4	7	4
8	2	1	1	7	6	2	5
6	8	2	2	3	4	4	1
5	7	5	3	2	1	7	4
2	3	4	8	4	5	1	6

SOLUTION TO 3168

■	3	2	■	8	7	6	■
6	■	8	3	4	■	2	5
1	4	3	■	7	2	5	■
5	■	1	7	6	■	8	2
■	7	■	4	■	8	1	■
2	5	6	8	3	■	7	1
7	■	4	1	2	5	■	3
■	2	7	■	5	1	3	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

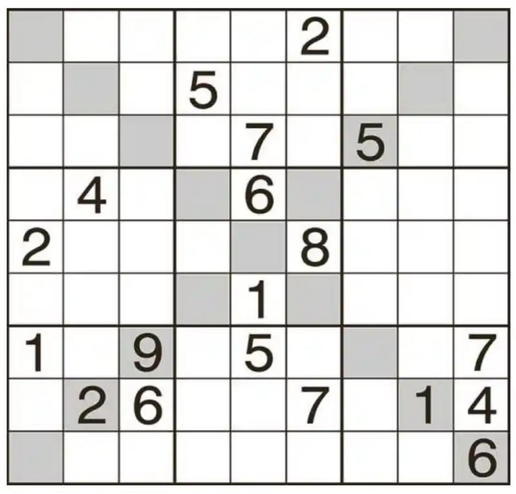
KAKURO- 3169



SOLUTION TO 3168

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3693



SOLUTION TO 3692

2	5	9	6	3	1	7	8	4
6	7	8	5	4	2	9	1	3
4	3	1	9	8	7	5	2	6
5	4	2	3	7	8	6	9	1
8	1	6	4	9	5	3	7	2
3	9	7	2	1	6	4	5	8
1	2	3	7	5	4	8	6	9
9	6	5	8	2	3	1	4	7
7	8	4	1	6	9	2	3	5

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Festive sales: Ecommerce platforms clock Rs 60,000 crore sales in first week

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

The newly-reduced GST prices, discounts and surge in quick deliveries have boosted this year's festive season as sales reached about Rs 60,000 crore in the first week alone.

A report by market intelligence firm Datum Intelligence revealed that ecommerce platforms generated Rs 60,700 crore gross merchandise value (GMV), up 29% year-on-year (YoY). It projects total festive sales to grow 27% YoY to cross Rs 1.2 lakh crore.

Earlier, Redseer's latest analysis projected ecommerce sales during the 30–35 days leading up to Diwali to cross Rs 1.15 lakh crore GMV, growing 20–25% YoY and nearly double that of last year's pace.

Datum Intelligence pointed out that the GST rate cuts announced in September, reducing taxes on several large appliances and mid-priced apparel, created an additional tailwind by making many products 6–8 % cheaper at checkout. It further said that the festive season started with a surge in sales activity.

September 22, 2025 emerged as the largest single-day of sales in the entire first week, it said.

Ecommerce majors such as Flipkart, Amazon and Meesho began their festive sales last week. According to the platform's data, mobiles took the leadership position in the largest GMV category (42 % share) but grew 27.2% YoY, slightly below the market average.

With expanding quick commerce penetration compared to last year, grocery (44% YoY) was the fastest-growing category, and it is expected to remain a key driver.

Appliances (41% YoY) saw a notable lift from the GST cut and there was a strong demand for refrigerators (20%), dishwashers (15%) and inverter batteries, data showed.

Rather being concentrated only in the opening sale days, quick commerce demand is expected to be more evenly distributed across the month, it said.

Amazon enables sellers pass on GST benefits of over Rs 100 cr

BENGALURU, DHNS: Ecommerce firm Amazon said on Tuesday that as part of the ongoing Amazon Great Indian Festival, the Great Savings Celebration #GSTBachatUtsav storefront enabled sellers to pass on over Rs 100 crore in GST savings across appliances, fashion, everyday essentials and other applicable categories. It also said that 40% of all customer orders on the first day of Amazon Great Indian Festival were delivered the same or the next day.

"As part of our commitment to supporting sellers and helping them stay compliant with government reforms, we enabled a smooth transition to the new GST rates starting September 22. Through tools, automatic updation of tax codes, masterclasses on the changes and more, we empowered lakhs of sellers to conveniently implement GST benefits for customers," said Saurabh Srivastava, Vice President, Amazon India.

"In the first few days of the Amazon Great Indian Festival, we have enabled sellers to pass on savings of over Rs 100 crore in GST benefits to customers," he added.

The firm said that the recent GST reductions played a pivotal role in shaping customer demand across categories this festive season. Customers upgraded to big-ticket appliances with air conditioners growing at double digits year-over-year, while inverter batteries surged 2X and dishwashers grew by 120%.

Kitchen appliances saw a 50% jump in eco-friendly units. Everyday essentials reflected the impact of GST savings with beverages, oils, and cereals growing over 100% vs BAU (Business As Usual), while high-protein foods and spreads from D2C brands surged over 150%.

India-EFTA trade deal to come into effect from today

Deal promises $100 bn investment, 10 lakh jobs in India in 15 years

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal during a meeting with a delegate from EFTA nations in New Delhi, on March 10, 2024. PTI FILE PHOTO

A free trade agreement between India and the four-nation European bloc the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) that seeks to facilitate $100 billion (over Rs 8 lakh crore) investments and create 10 lakh jobs in India over the next 15 years, is set to come into effect from Wednesday.

A group of investors and ministers from the EFTA member countries – Norway, Switzerland Iceland and Liechtenstein – along with India's Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, are likely to participate in an event organised in New Delhi for the launch of the deal.

This is India's first trade agreement with a European grouping. The deal called Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) was signed in March 2024 after 16 years of negotiation.

While India has also signed a trade deal with the United Kingdom, the implementation is expected to take several months as it is pending for approval from the British parliament.

The implementation of a trade deal with the European bloc will help India diversify its exports amid ongoing trade tensions with the United States following imposition of high tariffs by President Donald Trump administration.

Under the TEPA deal, the four member European bloc has agreed to cut duties on 92.2% of tariff lines on imports from India, while New Delhi has offered to lower duties on 82.7% of tariff lines covering 95.3% of EFTA exports.

The EFTA's market access offer under TEPA covers 100% of non-agri products and tariff concession on processed agricultural products. "Sensitivity related to PLI in sectors such as pharma, medical devices & processed food etc. have been taken while extending offers," the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in a statement on Tuesday.

The agreement goes beyond goods and services. Investment promotion is a key element of the deal. It promises to facilitate $100 billion worth of foreign direct investment (FDI) in India in the next 15 years. These investments are estimated to create 10 lakh direct employment in India.

The Ministry of Commerce has set up a dedicated EFTA desk as a single-window mechanism for investment facilitation to support EFTA businesses in investing, expanding, and establishing operations in India.

The desk, which was inaugurated in February this year, is focused on facilitating investments in renewable energy, life sciences, engineering, etc.

Indian economy to grow at 6.5% in FY26: ADB

NEW DELHI, PTI: Despite a strong 7.8% growth in the first quarter, the Indian economy is expected to grow at 6.5% in the current financial year as the impact of US tariffs on Indian exports will reduce prospects, particularly in the second half, ADB said on Tuesday.

It is to be noted that the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), released in April, had projected a higher growth rate of 7%, which was lowered to 6.5% in the July report on concern of a steep 50% US tariffs on shipment from India.

While GDP grew strongly in the first quarter (Q1) of FY26 at 7.8% on improved consumption and government spending, additional US tariffs on Indian exports will reduce growth, particularly in the second half of FY26 and in FY27, though resilient domestic demand and service exports will cushion the impact, ADO September 2025 said.

The reduction in exports will impact India's GDP in both FY26 and FY27 as the tariffs are implemented. As a result, net exports will subtract from growth more than previously forecast in April, it said. However, it said, the impact on GDP will be limited by a relatively low share of exports in GDP, increased exports to other countries, continued robust services exports that are not directly affected by tariffs, and a boost to domestic demand from fiscal and monetary policy.

UNLEASH closes Rs 300-cr maiden fund

BENGALURU, DHNS: Japanese venture capital firm UNLEASH Capital Partners (UNLEASH) on Tuesday announced the final close of its first fund at Rs 300 crore, which was oversubscribed against the initial target. The fund attracted about 35 Japanese Limited Partners (LPs). UNLEASH Capital has already announced seven investments from the fund.

Natsuki Sugai founded UNLEASH Capital Partners in collaboration with Gojo & Company. The fund will invest in innovative early-stage startups revolutionising the financial ecosystem in India.

"We have plans to make a total of 12 to 15 investments. Individual ticket sizes will range from Rs 5 to 18 crore, with UNLEASH Capital having the flexibility to lead investments or co-invest alongside like-minded investors. This fund represents a powerful bridge, channelling Japanese capital and expertise into India's most promising fintech and financial service innovators," said Natsuki Sugai, Founder and Managing Partner at UNLEASH Capital Partners.

Banks can lend to firms using gold as raw material

MUMBAI, PTI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed banks to grant need-based working capital loans to manufacturers using gold as raw material, extending the provision currently available only to jewellers.

Banks are generally prohibited from lending for the purchase of gold/silver in any form, or lending against the security of primary gold/silver.

However, a carve-out has been allowed by the RBI for scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) for granting working capital loans to jewellers.

The Reserve Bank of India (Lending Against Gold and Silver Collateral) (1st Amendment) Directions, 2025 issued on Monday, has extended the carve-out for granting any need-based working capital requirements of a borrower that uses gold as a raw material or input in its manufacturing or industrial processing activities.

"... Scheduled Commercial Bank or a Tier-3/4 UCB may extend need-based working capital finance to borrowers who use gold or silver as a raw material, or as an input in their manufacturing or industrial processing activity, for which such gold or silver can also be accepted as security," the directions said. A bank extending such finance shall ensure that borrowers do not acquire or hold gold for investment or speculative purposes, it said.

The central bank has also issued Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Advances) (Amendment Directions), 2025 to benefit borrowers while providing greater flexibility to lenders.

As per the extant norms, banks are required to benchmark all floating rate personal or retail loans (housing, auto), and floating rate loans extended to MSMEs, to an external benchmark.

All these directions will come into force from October 1, 2025.

RBI constitutes 6-member Payments Regulatory Board

MUMBAI, PTI: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday constituted the six-member Payments Regulatory Board, which includes three central government nominees, to supervise the functioning of payment systems in the country.

Sanjay Malhotra

The panel is headed by the Governor.

The Payments Regulatory Board (PRB) replaces the Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement System (BPSS), a committee of the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India.

The five-member BPSS was also headed by the RBI Governor, but does not include any government nominee.

US military too fat, too woke: Hegseth

Trump, Hegseth declare an end to 'politically correct' leadership in force

WASHINGTON, AFP

Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth portrayed the US military on Tuesday as too fat, too focused on leftist "woke" ideas, and in need of a major shake-up with an emphasis on being tough "war fighters."

The speech, delivered to an auditorium of hundreds of generals and admirals hastily called to Virginia from around the world, outlined a plan for ending what the former Fox News host claimed had been "decades of decay."

Striding across a stage in front of a giant American flag that mirrored his pocket square, Hegseth attacked "stupid rules of engagement" on the battlefield and "fat troops" at home, urging the military to look back to the standards of 1990 for inspiration. He said he wanted a military focused on lethality, not racial or gender diversity, with an end to what he described as troops "walking on eggshells" out of fear of complaints about behaviour.

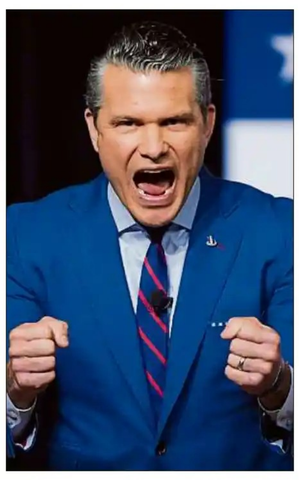
"This speech is about fixing decades of decay, some of it obvious, some of it hidden," Hegseth told the assembled senior officers in the highly unusual gathering. "Foolish and reckless political leaders set the wrong compass heading, and we lost our way. We became the 'Woke Department.' But not anymore," he said.

Hegseth outlined various changes he wants to make as part of reshaping the military. He called for the strict application of grooming standards — including a one-year cap on shaving waivers that are disproportionately used by Black troops — and for applying the current highest male fitness standard to all combat forces.

"Standards must be uniform, gender-neutral and high — if not, they're not standards," Hegseth said. He criticised out-of-shape troops, declaring: "It's tiring to look out at combat formations, or really any formation, and see fat troops. Likewise, it's completely unacceptable to see fat generals and admirals in the halls of the Pentagon."

President Donald Trump said that he wants to use American cities as training grounds for the armed forces and joined Hegseth in declaring an end to "woke" culture. "We will not be politically correct when it comes to defending American freedom," Trump said. "And we will be a fighting and winning machine."

US President Donald Trump addresses senior military officers gathered at the Marine Corps Base Quantico in Quantico, Virginia, on Tuesday. AFP



US Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth addresses senior military officers in Quantico, Virginia, on Tuesday. AFP

Pakistan and India conflict was 'very big', I settled that: Trump

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI: US President Donald Trump on Tuesday repeated his claim that he ended the "very big" conflict between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan.

In his remarks to military leaders in Quantico, Trump said he was "honoured" when Pakistan Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir praised him for saving millions of lives.

"I've settled seven. And yesterday we might have settled the biggest of them all, although I don't know, Pakistan and India was very big, both nuclear powers. I settled that."

Trump said he told the "two big nuclear nations" that he is "not going to trade" with them.

They responded, "'No, no, no, no, you cannot do that'. I said, 'yes, I can. You go into this freaking war that I'm hearing about'," Trump said, adding that they shot down seven planes.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

Oscar-winning star Nicole Kidman and Grammy-winning musician Keith Urban have separated after 19 years of marriage. The couple tied the knot in 2006 and are parents to two teenage daughters. REUTERS FILE

Blast near Pak paramilitary HQ kills 10, injures several others

▸ At least 10 people were killed and over 30 others injured on Tuesday in a bomb attack against the paramilitary forces in Pakistan's troubled Balochistan province, PTI reports from Karachi.

The blast ripped through a busy street close to the headquarters of Frontier Constabulary in Quetta. Balochistan Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar confirmed the attack. "Ten people have been killed while 32 were injured in the blast," he told the media. The injured were rushed to the city's various hospitals. While no group has claimed responsibility for the blast, Baloch insurgent groups frequently carry out attacks targeting security personnel in the province.

2-yr-old girl is Nepal new goddess

▸ A two-year-old girl chosen as Nepal's new living goddess was carried by family members from their home in an alley in Kathmandu to a temple palace during the country's longest Hindu festival, AP/PTI reports from Kathmandu.

Aryatara Shakya, at 2 years and 8 months, was chosen as the new Kumari or "virgin goddess," replacing the incumbent who is to become a mortal upon reaching puberty. Living goddesses are worshipped by both Hindus and Buddhists.

Trump gives Hamas ultimatum on Gaza deal

Hamas says it will study US President's peace plan before responding

JERUSALEM, AFP

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday gave Hamas an ultimatum of "three or four days" to respond to his plan to end the war in Gaza, as the militant group reviewed the proposal backed by Israel.

The plan calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages by Hamas within 72 hours, a disarmament of Hamas and the gradual Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, followed by a post-war transitional authority headed by Trump himself.

World powers, including Arab and Muslim nations, welcomed the proposal, but Hamas had yet to issue its response. "We're going to do about three or four days," Trump told reporters when asked about any timeframe.

He later warned the militants would face severe consequences if they refused.

"We have one signature that we need, and that signature will pay in hell if they don't sign," Trump told US generals and admirals gathered at a military base in Quantico, Virginia.

Trump announced his proposal at the White House on Monday after meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. On Tuesday, a Palestinian source said on condition of anonymity that Hamas had begun consultations on the plan "within its political and military leaderships, both inside Palestine and abroad".

"The discussions could take several days due to the complexities," the source said.

Qatar, which hosts Hamas's exiled leadership, said it would hold a meeting with Hamas officials and Turkey later Tuesday. "It is still too early to speak about responses, but we are truly optimistic that this plan, as we said, is a comprehensive one," foreign ministry spokesman Majed al-Ansari said.

Hamas said it will discuss Trump's peace plan for Gaza within the group and with other Palestinian factions before responding.

The deal demands that Hamas militants fully disarm and be excluded from future roles in the government, but those who agree to "peaceful co-existence" would be given amnesty.

It would also see a phased Israeli withdrawal from Gaza after nearly two years of war sparked by Hamas's unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7, 2023.

People walk with humanitarian aid packages that they received from a distribution centre run by the US and Israeli-backed agency in Nuseirat on Tuesday. AFP

Pak successfully test-fires Fatah-4 cruise missile

ISLAMABAD, PTI: Pakistan on Tuesday successfully conducted a training launch of the newly inducted and indigenously developed cruise missile 'Fatah-4' that can strike targets up to 750 km.

The military carried out the launch of the missile with a range of 750 km, the army said in a statement.

"Equipped with advanced avionics and state-of-the-art navigational aids, this weapon system is capable of evading enemy's missile defence system due to terrain-hugging features and engaging targets with high precision," the army said.

As part of the Army Rocket Force Command, Fatah-4 "will further enhance the reach, lethality and survivability of Pakistan Army's conventional missile systems," it said.

US headed towards govt shutdown: Trump

WASHINGTON, AFP

President Donald Trump said Tuesday the US government would probably see its first shutdown in more than six years, with funding expiring at midnight and no breakthrough in sight on deadlocked negotiations between Democrats and Republicans.

"We'll probably have a shutdown," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office just hours before the deadline for a deal. "Nothing is inevitable but I would say it's probably likely."

Trump's assessment came after a last-gasp meeting at the White House on Monday yielded no progress, with top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer saying afterward that "large differences" remained between the sides.

Trump blamed Democrats over the stalled talks and threatened to punish the party and its voters during any stoppage by targeting progressive priorities and forcing mass public sector job cuts.

"We can do things during the shutdown that are irreversible that are bad for them... like cutting vast numbers of people out, cutting things that they like," he warned.

Democrats, in the minority in both chambers of Congress, have been seeking to flex rare leverage over the federal government, eight months into Trump's barnstorming second presidency that has seen entire government agencies dismantled.

The 100-member Senate requires 60 votes to pass government funding bills to pass by 60 votes -- seven more than the Republicans control.

Men try to connect their smart TV to the internet amid telecom shutdown in Kabul on Tuesday. REUTERS

Taliban internet cut sparks Afghanistan telecom blackout

KABUL, AFP: The United Nations called on Afghanistan's Taliban authorities Monday to immediately restore internet and telecommunications in the country, 24 hours after a nationwide blackout was imposed.

The government began shutting down high-speed internet connections to some provinces earlier this month to prevent "immorality", on the orders of shadowy supreme leader Hibatullah Akhundzada.

Mobile phone signal and internet service weakened on Monday night until connectivity was less than one percent of ordinary levels.

Afghans are unable to contact each other, online businesses and the banking systems have frozen, and diaspoara abroad cannot send crucial remittances to family.

All flights were cancelled at Kabul airport on Tuesday, AFP journalists saw.

"The cut in access has left Afghanistan almost completely cut off from the outside world, and risks inflicting significant harm on the Afghan people, including by threatening economic stability and exacerbating one of the world's worst humanitarian crises," the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) said in a statement.

"The current blackout also constitutes a further restriction on access to information and freedom of expression in Afghanistan," it added.

It is the first time since the Taliban government won their insurgency in 2021 and imposed a strict version of Islamic law that communications have been shut down in the country.

Significant number of H-1B visa changes before 2026: Lutnick

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI

US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said there will be "a significant number of changes" in the H-1B visa process before February 2026, when the new fee of $100,000 goes into effect, as he described as "just wrong" the idea of "inexpensive" tech consultants coming into the country and bringing their families.

The Trump administration this month announced a one-time fee of $1,00,000 for new H-1B work visas, an order that will impact Indian professionals looking to work in the US on the temporary visas.

Standing behind US President Donald Trump in the Oval Office when the H-1B proclamation was signed, Lutnick had then said that the $1,00,000 will be an annual fee for all H-1B visas, including renewals and first-time applicants.

Amid widespread panic and chaos, the Trump administration clarified that the new fee requirement for H-1B visas will not apply to current visa holders and is a one-time payment applicable only to new petitions. "This procedure and process goes into effect in February of 2026, so my guess is going to be, there are going to be a significant number of changes between now and 2026," Lutnick said Sunday in an interview with NewsNation.

Lutnick said that with the $1,00,000 fee on applications, "at least it shouldn't be overrun with these people. But I think you're going to see a real thoughtful change going forward. And that's what I expect will happen."

"There's going to be a variety of changes; they're talking about changes - how to get the lottery, should it still be a lottery? But that will all be resolved by February," he said.

US Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick at the White House in Washington DC on Tuesday. REUTERS

China to resolutely oppose Taiwan independence: Xi

BEIJING, PTI: President Xi Jinping on Tuesday said China will resolutely oppose "Taiwan independence" separatist activities and external interference, and firmly safeguard national sovereignty.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks at a reception held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing to celebrate the 76th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

"Efforts should be made to deepen exchanges and cooperation across the Taiwan Strait, resolutely oppose 'Taiwan independence' separatist activities and external interference, and firmly safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity," Xi said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that the residential property more fully described under the Schedule below is the subject matter before the Hon'ble High Court in RFA No. 183/2024. There is an Interim Order directing parties not to alienate the Suit Schedule Property until further orders. It has come to the notice of my client that respondent, Dr. Niranjan Raju is trying to sell the Suit Schedule Property notwithstanding the restraint order.

Public are hereby cautioned not to enter into any kind of transaction including Sale, Lease etc., with Dr. Niranjan Raju during the pendency of the above captioned appeal.

Despite this notice should anyone proceed to enter into any transactions in respect of the Suit Schedule Property, they will be doing so at their risk and cost.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 10 (Old No.183) situated at 2nd Cross, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore -560052 Measuring East to West (60+66)'/2 (66 feet on the Southern side and 60 feet on the North side South 40 feet measuring in all 2520 sq.ft6 and bounded as follows: East By : Premises No.35, West by : Road, North by ; House No.9, South by : House No.11.

N Dinesh Rao, Advocate
RAO ASSOCIATES,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS.
No.319/1, "Padma Nilaya", 4th Main,
Sadashivanagar, Bangalore - 560 080.
Ph: 94480 75324
Bangalore Date : 01/10/2025

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A1548 Dy. Chief Material Manager/C&S/Secunderabad

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of E-Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/144/2025 Dated: 25-09-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Annual Maintenance of IPMS Software at South Western Railway Construction Office Bengaluru. (Tender Ref. No. BNC-IPMS-AMC-2025)	Rs. 57,46,599/-

Date of closing of Tender is : Upto 15:00 hrs on 17-10-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/519/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice 18-CWS-MYSS-2025-26 Dated: 26-09-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
Stripping, Unloading, Transportation, Loading and Fitting of berths / seats, safety rails in ICF/LHB coaches.	Rs. 2,25,86,283.12

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 11:30 Hrs. on 18-10-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Workshop Manager/Central Workshop/Mysuru
PUB/520/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
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Ministry of Civil Aviation
Government of India
Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, New Delhi

Advertisement for the post of Member of the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA)

Applications are invited for selection to the post of Member, Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA), an Authority to regulate tariff and other charges for the aeronautical services rendered at airports, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

2. The details of age limit, Essential Qualification and Experience etc. along with prescribed format for application are available on the website of the Ministry of Civil Aviation at **www.civilaviation.gov.in**. The details can also be obtained from the website of AERA **[www.aera.gov.in].**

The eligible and interested persons may send their application in the prescribed format by **28.10. 2025.**

Joint Secretary

CBC 03112/12/0009/2526

BUREAU OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY
(A Statutory body under Ministry of Power, Government of India)
4th Floor, Sewa Bhawan, R. K. Puram, New Delhi – 110066
Website: www.beeindia.gov.in, Ph: 011-26766700
LiFE Lifestyle for Environment

VACANCY CIRCULAR FOR THE POSITION OF CONSULTANT (LEGAL)

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals and suitable candidates who are, not more than 45 years of age on date of publication of vacancy advertisement for engagement on contract basis for One (1) position of Consultant (Legal) in the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, New Delhi. The appointment to the vacancy shall be purely adhoc and applicant would not be entitled for regularization.

2. For details regarding Educational Qualifications, Age, Experience, Job Requirements and application format etc., please visit **www.beeindia.gov.in**.

3. Candidates who are qualified including those working in reputed legal firms may apply. The interested candidates must submit their application in the proforma on or before the closing date, which will be within 30 days of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News. The applications must be submitted in prescribed format along with self-attested copies of educational qualifications, experience certificates, and a passport-size photograph, to **Secretary, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, 4th Floor, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.**

CBC 34106/12/0014/2526 (Secretary)

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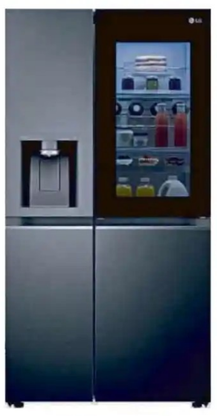

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VK Malhotra

Indian archery's godfather, Malhotra, breathes his last

NEW DELHI, PTI: Aside from being a seasoned politician, veteran BJP leader Vijay Kumar Malhotra was also an accomplished sports administrator and will be remembered as the man who introduced and moulded archery into a top sport in the country.Malhotra, who passed away on Tuesday here at the age of 93 due to age-related ailments, was the go to man for interim charge in the highest echelons of Indian sport during his hey days.

He was made an acting president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) from April 26, 2011 to December 5, 2012 after Suresh Kalmadi was arrested in the 2010 Commonwealth Games corruption scandal.

Known to be a clean, and non-confrontational administrator, he guided the IOA through a difficult time when the country's sporting image was battered by the 2010 CWG scandal.

He also managed to bring a semblance of sanity to the IOA administration.

IN BRIEF

Lewis named ambassador

▸ Carl Lewis, widely recognised as one of the greatest athletes of all time, has been named the International Event Ambassador for the upcoming Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon, reports PTI from New Delhi.

Karthik joins Warriorz

▸ Former India wicket-keeper batter Dinesh Karthik on Tuesday joined Sharjah Warriorz ahead of the fourth season of the International League T20 (ILT20), reports PTI from Sharjah.

Maxwell to miss NZ tour

▸ Australia's star all-rounder Glenn Maxwell was on Tuesday ruled out of the three-match T20 series against New Zealand with a fractured wrist after being hit by a Mitchell Owen straight drive while bowling in the nets in Mount Maunganui, reports PTI from Melbourne.

Pak name squad for SA tour

▸ Pakistan on Tuesday included five spinners and recalled paceman Shaheen Shah Afridi in an 18-man squad for the two-match Test series to South Africa, reports PTI from Lahore.

Squad: Shan Masood (captain), Aamer Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Asif Afridi, Babar Azam, Faisal Akram, Hasan Ali, Imam-ul-Haq, Kamran Ghulam, Khurram Shahzad, Mohammad Rizwan, Noman Ali, Rohail Nazir, Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Shah Afridi.

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

Women's World Cup: Australia vs New Zealand **(3 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network.**

FOOTBALL

Champions League: Union SG vs Newcastle, Qarabag vs Copenhagen **(both 10:15 pm)**, Monaco vs Man City, Dortmund vs Athletic Club, Napoli vs Sporting, Villarreal vs Juventus, Arsenal vs Olympiacos, Barcelona vs PSG, Leverkusen vs PSV **(all 12:30 am, Thursday)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

SWIMMING

Asian Aquatics C'ships: Day 4, finals **(6 pm)**. **LIVE** on **DD Sports.**

PARA ATHLETICS

World C'ships: Day 5 **(9:30 am)**. **LIVE** on **DD Sports.**

CRICKET FIRST TEST

WI await monumental Indian test

Gill leads at home for the first time as rain poses threat

SIDNEY KIRAN,
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

During the bitterly fought Asia Cup, India skipper Suryakumar Yadav took a dig at Pakistan by saying a 'rivalry' against India doesn't exist anymore. Most captains will refrain from making such bold comments, especially the ones that belittle their opponents, but the bitter truth is India has gone on to become a superpower in world cricket while Pakistan is mired deep in problems.

The same, although it may sound harsh, can be said about the West Indies, against whom India will lock horns in a two-match Test series starting Thursday at the Narendra Modi Stadium here. Once the dominant force of world cricket with fear-inducing bowlers and dashing batters who could tear apart any attack with panache, the West Indies have now been reduced to a laughing stock with even minnows Nepal taking a 2-0 series lead — albeit in T20 format against a second string side.

India, who once struggled to match up to the mighty West Indies in the era gone by losing first five consecutive Test series they contested, have now turned the tables completely. Since losing the fourth Test of the 2022 series at Sabina Park in Jamaica, the Indians have bossed the next nine series — winning four at home and the remaining away. Even more startling is the fact that India haven't lost a single game in 26 Tests against the West Indies in that period, winning 15 of them. Simply put, the West Indies have struggled to match up to the Indians, and the prediction is that the visitors, already hit by injuries to fast bowlers Alzarri Joseph and Shamar Joseph even before a ball could be bowled, will need less than a miracle to avoid a 2-0 defeat.

Having said that, India will be wary of taking the West Indies lightly despite the Caribbeans being bowled out for a measly 27 by Australia this May. India themselves are going through a transition with the series being the first at home for a decade without either former skipper Virat Kohli or ace spinner R Ashwin featuring in playing XI. There's also the lingering bitter aftertaste of the 3-0 home drubbing India suffered at the hands of New Zealand about a year ago.

The onus on this new bunch, led by Shubman Gill, will be to restore the dominance India exerted at home from 2012 to 2024 where they won 18 consecutive series. The West Indies will be the first step towards that goal, with the World Test Championship winner South Africa up next in November.

The series against the West Indies gives them the perfect chance to get into the groove ahead of the bigger battle.

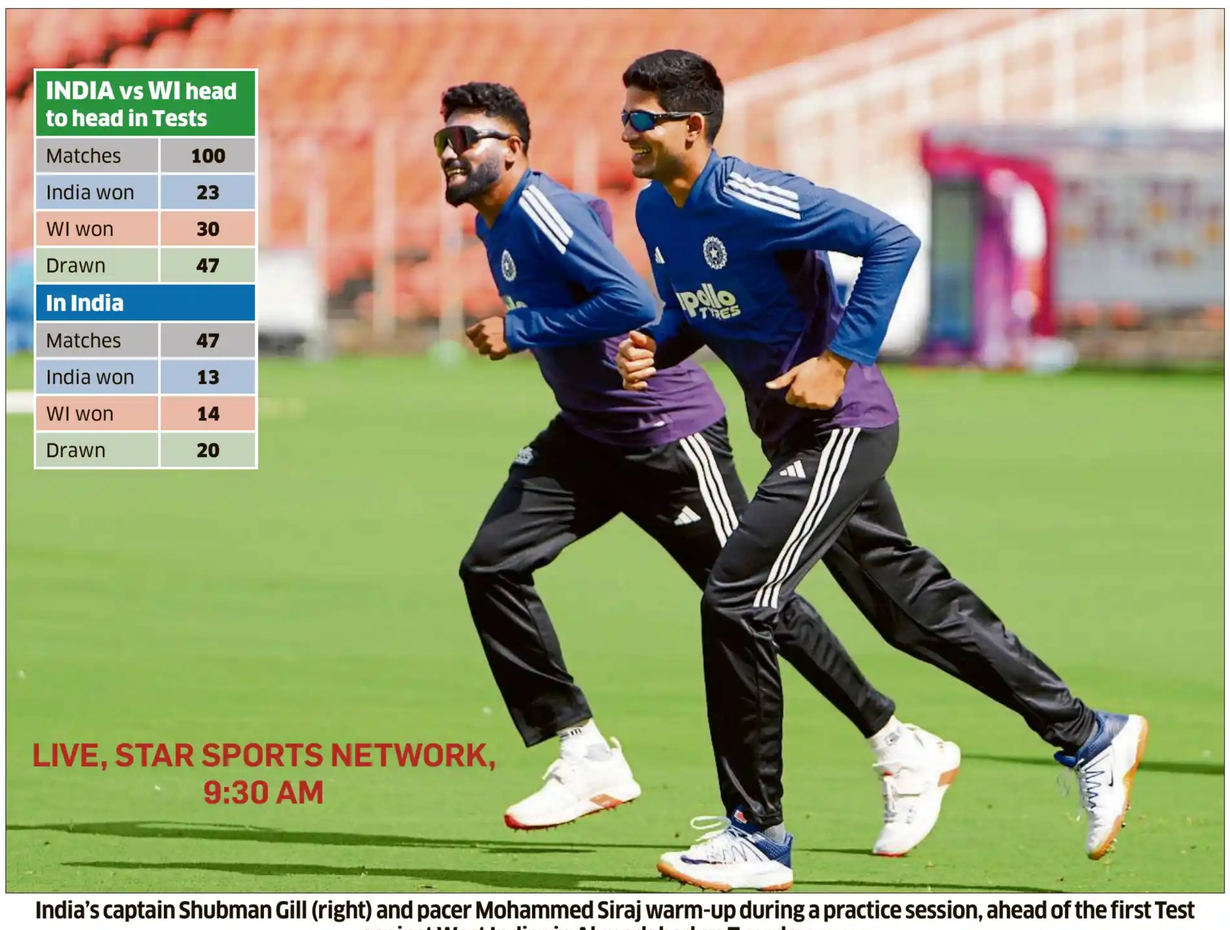
Two days ahead of the match, the pitch wore a green look that took most by surprise. During the decade of home dominance, Indians preferred playing on turning tracks, with Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja often running rings around visiting batters. Although India have packed their side with four spinners, the abundance of grass less than 48 hours before the start of play has left many wondering what strategy this India team under head coach Gautam Gambhir is trying to employ. All the grass could even be shaved off on Wednesday, but even if India chose to retain it, they have three wonderful pacers who can exploit it. The series will be a strong test for Sudharsan, who has now officially received the backing for the all-important No. 3 slot.

He gave a decent account of his talent in England, but the West Indies present a great opportunity for him to show he indeed is ready for the rigours of Test cricket.

India will also be hoping for good weather, with rain forecast for the duration of the Test.

Squad: India : Shubman Gill (capt), Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul, Sai Sudharsan, Devdutt Padikkal, Dhruv Jurel (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Mohammed Siraj, Jasprit Bumrah, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Nitish Reddy, Prasidh Krishna, Axar Patel, N Jagadeesan (wk).
West Indies: Roston Chase (capt), Kevlon Anderson, Alick Athanaze, John Campbell, Tagenarine Chanderpaul, Justin Greaves, Shai Hope (wk), Tevin Imlach, Johann Layne, Jediah Blades, Brandon King, Anderson Phillip, Khary Pierre, Jayden Seales, Jomel Warrican.

INDIA vs WI head to head in Tests	
Matches	100
India won	23
WI won	30
Drawn	47
In India	
Matches	47
India won	13
WI won	14
Drawn	20



India's captain Shubman Gill (right) and pacer Mohammed Siraj warm-up during a practice session, ahead of the first Test against West Indies in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. AP/PTI

Speculation over sale of RCB resurfaces

Speculation over the sale of Royal Challengers Bengaluru resurfaced on Monday after former IPL chairman Lalit Modi claimed on X that owners Diageo may finally be ready to offload the franchise, reports DHNS.

Modi suggested RCB could be valued at over $2 billion, far above the $269 million estimate in Houlihan Lokey's 2025 IPL Brand Valuation Study. Reports also linked Serum Institute chief Adar Poonawalla as a potential bidder. The talk of a sale first emerged in June after RCB's maiden IPL title win was followed by a deadly stampede outside M Chinnaswamy Stadium that killed 12 fans. At the time, the Bombay Stock Exchange sought clarification, and Diageo dismissed the rumours as "speculative".

This time, however, the company declined to issue a categorical denial. "Diageo declines to comment on market speculation," sources told DH.

Indians hit the ground running; 3 players given rest

SIDNEY KIRAN
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

The Indians, barring three members from the triumphant Asia Cup squad, hit the ground running hard on Tuesday ahead of the opening Test against the West Indies at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

Despite having checked into Ahmedabad in the intervening night between Monday and Tuesday, captain Shubham Gill chose not to rest his weary body, first taking part in the usual fielding drills with the rest of the team-mates in the afternoon before batting for over an hour in the 'nets' in an effort to get a feel of the red ball following a month of T20 cricket in the UAE.

Gill, who smashed a record 754 runs in his maiden series as the skipper of the Test team in the five-game rubber versus England a couple of months ago, looked in good rhythm against his fellow mates Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Washington Sundar, Ravindra Jadeja and Nitish Kumar Reddy. Young Sai Sudharsan, anointed as the new No. 3 batter, and Devdutt Padikkal also had a long stint at the 'nets' with the former constantly having conversations with batting coach Sitanshu Kotak.

India's head coach Gautam Gambhir (left) and Ravindra Jadeja have a chat during a practice session in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. AP/PTI

Fast bowlers Prasidh Krishna and Mohammed Siraj, both of whom played in the four-day game versus Australia A in Lucknow last week, worked up good pace, often hustling their batting colleagues. Seaming all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy, returning following a knee injury he suffered during the England series, also looked in good shape.

Ace fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah, Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel, all who played in Sunday's Asia Cup final against Pakistan, opted to rest. All the support staff members, including head coach Gautam Gambhir, were there at the training session, making a close observation of the happenings.

Rain washes away first India A-Australia A one-dayer

KANPUR, PTI: The first unofficial ODI between India A and Australia A was abandoned without a ball being bowled due to rain here on Tuesday.

Incessant showers at the Green Park Stadium did not allow even the toss to take place, leaving players and fans frustrated.

The drainage system at the Green Park stadium had come under scrutiny last year and the second game is scheduled at the same venue on Friday.

Deepesh stars as India U-19 take day's honours

BRISBANE, PTI: Seamer Deepesh Devendran impressed with a five-wicket haul to help India U-19 bowl out Australia U-19 for 243 and take the day one honours in the first Youth Test here on Tuesday.

Deepesh, the 17-year-old cricketer from Tamil Nadu, ended with excellent figures of 5/45 in 16.2 overs, while Kishan Kumar chipped in with 3/48 in 16 overs, playing the perfect supporting role.

Australia U-19 were all out in 91.2 overs.

One-down bat Steven Hogan top-scored for the Australian team with a patient 92 off 246 balls, waging a lone battle even as some of his colleagues perished after getting their eye in.

Zed Hollick was the next best scorer for Australia, making 38 off 94 balls.

Batting first after winning the toss, Australia lost two wickets for 30 runs with Deepesh and Kishan Kumar making a breakthrough each at the Ian Healy Oval.

Brief scores: Australia A: 243 all out in 91.2 overs (Steven Hogan 92, Zed Hollick 38; Kishan Kumar 3-48, Deepesh Devendran 5-45) vs India A

BCCI lodges strong protest in ACC AGM

DUBAI, PTI

The BCCI on Tuesday raised "strong objection" in the Asian Cricket Council's AGM over India not being presented the winner's trophy of the Asia Cup but the body's chairman Mohsin Naqvi remained defiant by "still not agreeing" to it.

India were not awarded the trophy on Sunday after their refusal to take the silverware from Naqvi, who is also a minister in the Pakistan government and chairman of the country's cricket board. He also has a pronounced anti-India political position.

BCCI vice President Rajeev Shukla and former treasurer Ashish Shelar were the Board representatives in the AGM here. The Asia Cup trophy remains in the ACC office and it is still not clear when it will duly reach the members of the winning team.

"India raised strong objection in the ACC meeting today on not handing over of the trophy and the drama by ACC chairman (Naqvi) during the post-match award event," an ACC source told PTI.

However, the source said Naqvi "still hasn't agreed to give the trophy. Shukla and Shelar categorically said that the trophy should be handed over to the winning team.

Rajeev Shukla

"It is an ACC trophy and doesn't belong to an individual. Naqvi did not say no to it, he was passing the buck," the source added.

"Naqvi insisted that the matter should not be discussed in the AGM and brought up separately at some other time. The single point agenda of the meeting was to elect a vice chairman but even that was deferred."

Naqvi, it is learnt, did not congratulate the BCCI members for India winning the Asia Cup but was forced by Shelar to formally praise the Suryakumar Yadav-led side's unbeaten performance.

Kendall clinches show jumping event

BENGALURU, DHNS: Neil Kendall, astride Hach from Surge Stables, clinched the highest category of show jumping (125-130cm) event at the Embassy International Riding School's Equestrian Premier League here past weekend.

Results: SJ7 – 125-130cm: Neil Kendall (Hach, Surge Stables) secured, 1; Sresht Raju Mantena (Dancing Queen, Surge Stables) 2.
SJ6 – 120cm: Nakshath V (Vibrato, Zippy Equestrian) 1; Sresht Raju Mantena (S. Quintani, Surge Stables) 2; Hansikaa (Couleur, Equitan) 3.
SJ5 – 110-115cm: 1. Aradhana Anand (Democratic-W, CS) 2. Sriram (Icon, CS) 3.
SJ4 – 105-110cm (Show Jumping, Junior): Aradhana Anand (Democratic-W, Covai Stables) 1; Thivyesh Ram (Klaver, Covai Stables) 2; Tanishka G (Mallorca HDH, Covai Stables) 3.
Open: Sriram Shanmugam (Galaxie, Covai Stables) 1; Nikolay (Dia, EIRS) 2; Balaji Vijayshankar (Kylano, Surge Stables) 3.
SJ3 – 90-100cm (Show Jumping - Sub-junior & Open): Kapilesh G (Tara, Covai Stables) 1; Basavaraju S (Caraida, EIRS) 2; Sriram Shanmugam (Big Dream, Covai Stables) 3.
SJ2 – 80-90cm (Show Jumping, Sub-junior): Eshaan Sundaram (Abra Kadabra, EIRS) 1; Nikshita (Elliot, EIRS) 2; Eshaan Sundaram (Azlan, EIRS) 3.
Open: Basavaraju S (Caraida, EIRS) 1; Vivek (Jack Daniels, Saru Royal Riders) 2; Sriram Shanmugam (Amber, CS) 3.
SJ1 – 60-70cm (Show Jumping, Children below 14): Tanush (Bonape, EIRS) 1; Diego Marren (Theo, EIRS) 2; Syed Mohammad Ahyan (Vennila, ED) 3.
Open: Clear – Bharath Kumar (Rusty, Zippy Equestrian), Swapnil Sane (Saloni, EIRS), Anagha G (Rusty, Zippy Equestrian), Nakul Sanjeev (Big Dream, CS), Vishwa P (Hercules, Zippy Equestrian), Ananya Senthil (Boogie Woogie, CEC).
D1 – EPL Preliminary Dressage (Sub-junior): Kevin Gabriel (Sechs Richtige, CEC) 1; Aanya Vinayak (Grand Duke, CEC) 2; Zoya S (Prematheus, EIRS) 3.
Open: Akanksha Bharadwaj (Lady Ann, CEC) 1; Swapnil Sane (Knotty Dancer, EIRS) 2; Swapnil Sane (Fudge, EIRS) 3.
D2 – EPL Sub-Junior & Open Dressage (Open): Sanskar Rathore (Star Proof, CEC) 1; Swapnil Sane (Sonia, EIRS) 2; Swapnil Sane (Knotty Dancer, EIRS) 3.
D3 – EPL Junior Dressage (Sub-junior): Manya S Narayan (Abra Kadabra, EIRS) 1; Ranavir (Franz, Equitan) 2; Shubh Chowdhari (Furstentanz, CEC) 3.
Open: Miraya (Furst Florianus, CEC).
D4 – EPL Senior Dressage (Open): Isabelle H (Knock Out, CEC) 1; Samanna Everaa (Donna Wetter 3, CEC) 2; Neil Kendall (Chase, Surge Stables) 3.
D5 – Prix St. George (Open): Samanna Everaa (Donna Wetter 3, CEC).

Nepal sting West Indies again to clinch series 2-0

DUBAI, AFP: Nepal produced a stunning performance to bowl the West Indies out for just 83 in the second T20I in Sharjah on Monday and claim a 2-0 victory in their first-ever series against a Test-playing country with a game to spare.

After racking up 173 for six in their 20 overs with half-centuries for Aasif Sheikh and Sundeep Jora, Nepal, ranked 18th in the world skittled the West Indies in 17.1 overs to claim victory by a crushing 90 runs.

Mohammad Aadil Alam took 4-24 while Kushal Bhurtel took 3-16 in just 2.1 overs of leg spin.

It marked the biggest winning margin for an associate member nation against a full member while West Indies' total of 83 is the lowest a full member has mustered against an associate.

"We are very happy. It took a lot to win against a Test-playing country," said Nepal captain Rohit Paudel whose side won the opener on Saturday by 19 runs.

Aasif Sheikh. AFP FILE PHOTO

"We want to continue this way and play more against Test-playing nations."

Nepal's total was built on a 100-run partnership between opener Aasif Sheikh, who batted through for 68 not out, and Jora, who scored 63.

West Indies were quickly in trouble at 23 for three. They rebuilt to 63-4 in the 12th over before collapsing to 83 all out.

Brief scores: Nepal: 173/6 in 20 overs (Aasif Sheikh 68, Sundeep Jora 63; Akeal Hosein 2-21, Kyle Mayers 2-26) bt West Indies: 83 all out in 17.1 overs (Mohammad Aadil Alam 4-24, Kushal Bhurtel 3-16). **Results:** Nepal won by 90 runs. **PoM:** Aasif Sheikh.

Triumphant Alcaraz adds to scheduling debate

TOKYO, AFP: Carlos Alcaraz won his eighth title of a sensational season on Tuesday in Tokyo and then pulled out of the Shanghai Masters because of "physical issues" and took aim at tennis' packed schedule.

The Spanish world number one hurt his ankle in his opening match at the Japan Open but shrugged off the issue to beat American Taylor Fritz 6-4, 6-4 in the final.

But immediately after downing the world No. 5, the six-time Grand Slam champion took aim at the tennis calendar.

"The schedule is really tight. They have to do something with the schedule," the recently crowned US Open champion told reporters in the Japanese capital, echoing the sentiments this week of fellow major champions Iga Swiatek and Coco Gauff.

Injury-hit PSG face Barca test

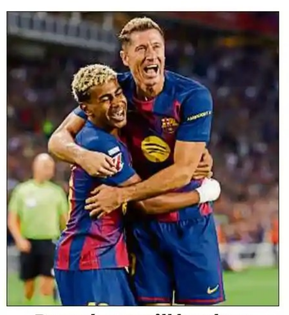
PARIS, AFP

Paris Saint-Germain face their biggest test of the season so far when the Champions League title-holders visit Barcelona this week, but Luis Enrique's side come into the game in the midst of an injury crisis affecting several of their biggest stars.

The headline absentee is Ousmane Dembele, fresh from winning the Ballon d'Or last week as recognition for his magnificent 2024/25 campaign, in which the France winger scored 35 goals.

How Dembele would have loved to come up against the Catalans, the club he left in 2023 after six years in which he showed moments of brilliance but struggled for consistency -- and with injuries.

The 28-year-old could have taken on Lamine Yamal, the teenager who he pipped to the Ballon d'Or award but who did win the Kopa Trophy for the best player in the world last season aged under 21.



Barcelona will bank on their strike force of Robert Lewandowski (right) and Lamine Yamal to get the better of PSG in their Champions League match on Thursday. AFP

But Dembele is still recovering from a thigh injury picked up on international duty with France at the beginning of the month, and is not expected back for at least another couple of weeks.

Coach Luis Enrique has also been missing Desire Doue, the thrilling 20-year-old attacker who finished second to Yamal in the Kopa Trophy ranking -- he has not played since suffering a calf injury on France duty at the same time as Dembele.

Then there is centre-back and captain Marquinhos and all-action Portuguese midfielder Joao Neves, who are nursing thigh and hamstring injuries respectively.

Playmaker Vitinha, third in the Ballon d'Or, came off before half-time at the weekend while Khvicha Kvaratskhelia was withdrawn at the interval.

PSG's hope is that both players were taken off early enough to prevent any lasting damage, but suddenly Luis Enrique's options are being drastically reduced.

The Parisians played 65 games during 2024/25, in a season spanning 11 months. That included 17 matches in the Champions League and seven in the Club World Cup, where their marathon campaign concluded with a 3-0 loss to Chelsea in mid-July.

Saudi partner with ILT20 to foray into cricket

DUBAI, PTI: Saudi Arabia has ventured into mainstream cricket for the first time, announcing a strategic partnership with International League T20 (ILT20) which would ensure that all six participating franchises in the event will have to absorb at least one player from the oil-rich kingdom.

Under the partnership, the Saudi Arabian Cricket Federation (SACF) has sanctioned and licensed the DP World ILT20, which is approved by the Emirates Cricket Board, as an official T20 league (men and women) to host matches within Saudi Arabia in its forthcoming seasons.

The ILT20 Season 4 will begin on December 2.

FC Real Bengaluru's Syed Ahmed (left) battles for possession with Rebels FC's Mumin Bashir Tantray during their Super Division League championship clash in BFS on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/ BK JANARDHAN

Syed stars in FCRB win

BENGALURU, DHNS: Syed Ahmed netted a brace while Vaishakh A found the back of the net once as FC Real Bengaluru eased past Rebels FC 3-0 in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Tuesday.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Vaishakh A opened the scoring in the 12th minute before Syed scored in the 41st and 73rd minutes respectively to wrap up the game for Real Bengaluru.

Results: FC Real Bengaluru: 3 (Vaishakh A 12th, Syed Ahmed 41st, 73rd) bt Rebels FC: 0; Bangalore City FC: 2 (Ajay ShankarKadam 45th+3 pen, Mohak Muttalmani 65th) bt Roots FC: 1 (Darshan V 23rd); ASC & Centre FC: 0 drew with FC Bengaluru United: 0.

Applications for National Sports Awards open

NEW DELHI: The Sports Ministry on Tuesday began the process of inviting applications for this year's national sports awards with October 28 being the last date of submission.

The awards are given annually by the President of India to recognise and reward excellence in sports but the date of the ceremony, which is held at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, is not yet out.

Sportspersons penalised for doping violations would only be eligible if their ban period is over.

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award is the highest honour given.

CRICKET WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Rusty India fire opening salvo

Deepti, Amanjot, Sneh seal hosts' 59-run win over Sri Lanka

GUWAHATI, PTI

Amanjot Kaur (left) scored a 56-ball 57 while Deepti Sharma added run-a-ball 53 in India's 59-run win over Sri Lanka in the World Cup opener in Guwahati on Tuesday. AFP

The experience of Deepti Sharma was on full display as she struck a composed half-century alongside Amanjot Kaur before taking a decisive three-wicket haul to help India overcome early hiccups and seal a 59-run win over Sri Lanka via DLS method in their Women's World Cup opener here on Tuesday.

For Sri Lanka, it was a case of missed opportunities. Having put India into bat, they had the game in their grasp when Harmanpreet Kaur and Co slipped to 124/6 with four wickets falling in the space of two overs.

But sloppy fielding let them down as the Indian middle and lower order capitalised to post a challenging 270-run target in 47 overs, after rain interruptions spanning nearly 90 minutes reduced the contest to a curtailed affair.

In reply, Lankan skipper Chamari Athapaththu looked ominous, striking the ball cleanly in her 43 off 47 but after her dismissal the innings lost the momentum and eventually ended at 211 in 45.4 overs.

Playing without senior pacer Renuka Singh, India's bowling unit showed promise with Deepti leading from the front.

The new-ball duo of youngster Kranti Goud and Amanjot Kaur struck with a wicket apiece. Ably marshalled by Deepti, the three-pronged spin attack extracted sharp turn from a dry surface that had stayed under covers for over an hour due to rain interruptions.

Sneh Rana returned figures of 2/32, while rookie left-arm spinner Shree Charani impressed with 2/37 from her eight overs.

For Sri Lanka, Chamari was the standout batter. She repeatedly found the middle of the bat, punishing Deepti with two sixes and as many fours across successive overs.

But the Indian all-rounder had the last laugh. Coming around the wicket with a plan, she bowled full, flat, and quick and Chamari, looking to whip through the on-side, played all around it and missed, her stumps rattled.

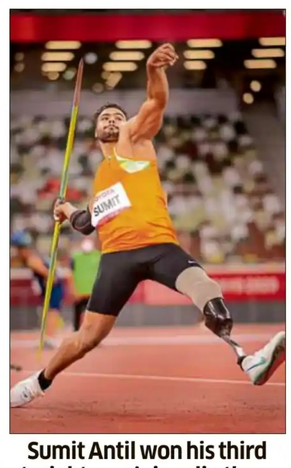
That dismissal proved to be the turning point, as Sri Lanka. By the time Deepti wrapped up her spell, conceding little and breaking Sri Lanka's backbone, India's bowlers had sensed urgency, kept the squeeze on, and ensured the contest swung firmly in their favour. Earlier, Amanjot displayed character and grit under pressure in her maiden Women's World Cup match and she teamed up with veteran Deepti to lift India from a precarious position and post a challenging 269 for eight. Put into bat, India were in deep trouble at 124/6 when the 24-year-old from Mohali, Amanjot, walked into the middle. Alongside senior partner Deepti (53 off 53), Amanjot (57 off 56) rebuilt the innings with a 103-run partnership off.

Brief scores: India: 269/8 in 47 overs (Pratika Rawal 37, Harleen Deol 48, Deepti Sharma 53, Amanjot Kaur 57, Sneh Rana 28 n.o.; Udeshika Prabodhani 2-55, Inoka Ranaweera 4-46) bt Sri Lanka: 211 all out in 45.4 overs (Chamari Athapaththu 43, Harshitha Samarawickrama 29, Nilakshika Silva 35; Deepti Sharma 3-54, Sneh Rana 2-32, Shree Charani 2-37). **Result:** India won by 59 runs via DLS method. **PoM:** Deepti Sharma. **India's next match:** vs Pakistan (Oct 5, Colombo). **Today's match:** Australia vs New Zealand

Sumit stands tall with third gold

India clinch four medals on a productive day

NEW DELHI, PTI



Sumit Antil won his third straight men's javelin throw F64 gold with a 71.37m effort at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi. PTI FILE PHOTO

Sumit Antil became the most successful Indian in the history of World Para Athletics Championships, clinching his third straight javelin title to help the country pocket two gold and as many silver on the most productive day here on Tuesday.

Cheered on from the stands by two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra, 27-year-old Sumit Antil claimed the men's javelin F64 title with a championship-record throw of 71.37m on his fifth attempt, dominating a field he commanded throughout.

He bettered his own championships record of 70.83m set in the 2023 edition, but was nearly 2m away from his world record of 73.29m which he had set while winning the 2023 Asian Para Games gold. No Indian has won three gold in World Para Athletics Championships.

Sumit said he wanted to break his own world record but he felt "soreness" on his shoulder area and thus had to be satisfied with the championship record in the event meant for athletes with moderately affected movement in one or both legs or the absence of limbs.

India also won a surprise gold medal through Sandip Sargar in the men's javelin F44 event with a throw of 62.82m in a 1-2 finish for the hosts. Sandeep won the silver with an effort of 62.67m.

Earlier in the morning session, Yogesh Kathuniya won yet another silver medal in the men's F56 discus throw event with a throw of 42.49m as his quest for a maiden gold at the global level continued.

With the four medals on the day, India moved up to fourth sport with 4 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze, below Brazil (7-14-6), Poland (6-1-5) and China (5-7-4).

Sumit also has two Paralympics gold medals won in 2021 Tokyo and 2024 Paris.

Results: Men: Discus Throw F56: Claudiney Batista (Bra) 45.67, 1; Yogesh Kathuniya (Ind) 42.49, 2; Konstantinos Tzoinis (Gre) 39.97, 3.
Javelin Throw F44: M Gurjar (Ind) 62.82, 1; Sandeep (Ind) 62.67, 2; Edenilson Roberto (Bra) 62.36, 3.
Javelin Throw F64: Sumit Antil (Ind) 71.37, 1; Thomas Felipe Soto (Col) 48.38, 2; Rufat Khabilullin (Kaz) 47.14, 3.

Bengaluru swimmers make waves

ADITYA K HALDER
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Srihari Nataraj (top) won bronze in the 100m freestyle while Benediction Rohit claimed silver in the 50m butterfly in Ahmedabad on Tuesday.

Benediction Rohit continued India's medal run at the Asian Aquatics Championships here as the Bengaluru-based swimmer grabbed silver in 50m butterfly on Tuesday. The youngster missed out on the gold by mere 0.15 seconds while setting the fastest Indian timing in the event at 23.89 seconds.

Meanwhile, his City-mate Srihari Nataraj stretched his personal medal haul to five with a bronze in the men's 100m freestyle final.

In the 50m butterfly dash, 22-year-old Rohit (23.89 seconds) fought to the finish wall with Kazakhstan's Adilbek Mussin (23.74). The Indian, however, had to fend off another Kazakh for the silver as Maxim Skazobtsov was mere 0.01 behind at third place.

Tamil Nadu's Rohit, who trains in Bengaluru and became the first Indian to clock sub-24 second timing, improved his previous best of 23.96.

In a close battle to the touchpad, Srihari (49.96) finished just 0.77 seconds behind gold medallist Haoyu Wang of China followed by Qatar's Ali Tamer Hassan (49.46). His state-mate Akash Mani missed out on a podium finish as he finished right behind Srihari with a timing of 50.45.

The 24-year-old Bengaluru man, who has bagged five medals out of his six events, won three medals on the opening day -- two silver (200m freestyle and 50m backstroke) and a bronze (men's 4x100m relay medley) – followed by another silver in the 4x200m relay freestyle on the second day.

India's medal tally surged to nine (four silver and five bronze) with the two medals on the day and they remain at the ninth place. They also surpassed India's medal tally of seven from 2009 edition, which was India's best showing at the Asian meet before.

Meanwhile, China continued to reign supreme with 28 gold out of 38 events so far. Their overall medal tally stands at 36.

Results: Swimming: Men: 50m butterfly: Adilbek Mussin (KAZ) 23.74s, 1; Benedicton R. Beniston (IND) 23.89, 2; Maxim Skazobtsov (KAZ) 23.90, 3.
100m backstroke: Haiyang Qin (CHN) 59.07s, 1; Thanh Bao Pham (VIE) 1:01.08, 2; Yik Ki Tsui (HKG) 1:01.89, 3.
400m freestyle: Haibo Xu (CHN) 3:49.29s, 1; Huy Hoang Nguyen (VIE) 3:51.63, 2; Hoe Yean Khiew (MAS) 3:52.69, 3.
100m freestyle: Haoyu Wang (CHN) 49.19s, 1; Ali Tamer Hassan (QAT) 49.46, 2; Srihari Nataraj (IND) 49.96, 3.
Women: 100m backstroke: Wui Kiu Man (HKG) 1:09.12s, 1; Yijing Wang (CHN) 1:09.79, 2; Koharu Nakazawa (JPN) 1:10.14, 3.
800m freestyle: 100m freestyle: 100m freestyle: Mingyu Luo (CHN) 55.63s, 1; Sum Yiu Li (HKG) 55.92, 2; Thuy Hien Nguyen (VIE) 56.01, 3.
200m medley: 200m breaststroke: Mana Ishikawa (JPN) 2:12.00s, 1; Yanjun Zhou (CHN) 2:15.30, 2; Thi My Tien Vo (VIE) 2:15.96, 3.
800m freestyle: Haruno Tanimoto (JPN) 8:47.48s, 1; Thi My Tien Vo (VIE) 8:54.43, 2; Jialian Candice Gao (HKG) 9:02.82, 3.
Mixed: 4x100m freestyle relay: China 3:29.25, 1; Chinese Taipei 3:34.68, 2; Kazakhstan 3:35.36, 3.
Diving: Men: 3m springboard: Xiaohu Tai (CHN) 455.25 pts, 1; Hengnuo Lin (CHN) 432.45, 2; Vyacheslav Kachanov (UZB) 368.85, 3.
Women: Platform: Zihan Liu (CHN) 370.25 pts, 1; Xiahan Wu (CHN) 298.75, 2; Nur Muhammad Abrar Raj (MAS) 240.10, 3.

India shoot double podium in air rifle mixed team event

NEW DELHI, PTI: Isha Anil Taksale and Himanshu staged a thrilling fightback to win the 10m air rifle mixed team gold against country-mates Shambhavi Kshirsagar and Naraen Pranav, while Vinay Pratap Chandrawat bagged a bronze in men's trap as India maintained its No. 1 spot in the ISSF Junior World Cup with 23 medals, here on Tuesday.

Isha Taksale (left), coach Pooja Ghatkat (centre) and Himanshu. X

On the penultimate day of the event when India took its tally to seven gold, nine silver and seven bronze, the pair of Isha and Himanshu defeated Shambhavi and Pranav 17-15 after trailing 9-15 at one stage.

Both pairs showcased high-quality shooting with Shambhavi hitting two perfect 10.9s and Isha adding one, while only five of the 64 shots fired in the gold-medal match dipped below 10.

The bronze medal went to Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN) Varvara Kardakova and Kamil Nuriakhmetov, who defeated compatriots Mariia Kruglova and Timofei Aleinikov 17-9.

Croatia's 20-year-old Toni Gudelj delivered a commanding performance in the men's trap junior final, hitting 44 targets to give his country its first gold medal here.

Spain's Isaac Hernandez, who topped qualification with 120+6, settled for the silver (41).

Chandrawat claimed bronze with 34, while his teammate Arjun finished fourth on 29.

Czech Republic's Lea Kucerova took the women's trap junior gold with 41 hits, securing her nation's first medal of the competition. Italy's Sofia Gori earned silver with 37, while AIN's Kseniia Samofalova took bronze with 30.

Earlier, Kucerova and Lucy Myers of the USA had prevailed in a tense qualification shoot-off to secure the final berths ahead of India's Sabeera Haris, who finished seventh.

State athletes clinch 4 bronze on final day

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karnataka athletes added four more medals, all bronze, to their final tally at the 64th National Open Athletics Championships which came to an end in Ranchi on Monday.

Sprinter Prasanna Kumar clocked 21.28 seconds in the men's 200m race to clinch a bronze. SSCB's Sandeep Singh crossed the line first in 20.95 secs ahead of Karnataka boy Abhin Devadiga, who is representing Railways Sports here, in second spot with a 21.20 secs effort.

Later, Rakshith Naik (51.29 secs) and Deekshita Ramak Gowda (1:00.19) finished third in the men's and women's 400m hurdles respectively.

The fourth bronze of the day came from the state's women quartermilers - Priya Mohan, Deekshita, Disha Alige and Prajna - in the 4x400m relay in which they timed 3:43.43. Railway Sports' girls (3:39.28) occupied the top spot on the podium while Punjab claimed the second spot.

Karnataka athletes ended their campaign at the four-day event with a total of nine medals - one gold, two silver and six bronze.

Results (winners only, Karnataka unless mentioned): Men: 200m: Sandeep Singh (SSCB) 20.95s, 1; Prasanna Kumar (Kar) 21.28s, 3.
400m hurdles: Ruchit Mori (Guj) 50.47s, 1; Rakshith Naik (Kar) 51.29s, 3.
10,000m: Prince Kumar (Police) 30:25.15.
Women: 400m hurdles: Olimba Steffi (Railways) 58.93s, 1; Deekshita Ramak Gowda (Kar) 1:00.19, 3.
4x400m relay: Railways (3:39.28) 1; Karnataka (3:43.43) 3.
10,000m: Ravina Gayakwad (Mah) 35:30.16.
Hammer throw: Tanya Chaudhary (UP) 60.83m.

Karnataka quartermilers Priya Mohan, Deekshita Ramak Gowda, Prajna and Disha Alige (from left) pose with their spoils after finishing third in the women's 4x400m relay on Monday.

Glorious Power grabs day's plum

HYDERABAD RESULTS

Glorious Power, from the stables of Loe Desilva and ridden by Sonu Kumar, won the Be My Guest Plate, the feature event of the Hyderabad races on Tuesday.

1. Star Of Gwalior Plate - 1200M: Fortune Art (GV Reddy) Ashhad Asbar 1; Flashing Memories (Nakhat Singh) 2; Torrentina (HM Akshay) 3; Grey Sky (Ekram Alam) 4; Wb: 5-1/2, 1/2, Dist. T: 1-15.76. TB: Sandeep. Fav: Fortune Art.
2. Beloved Prince Plate (Div-I) -1400M: State Man (Ram Gopal Rao) Mukesh Kumar 1; Arizona Sun (Ajeeth Kumar) 2; Gusto's Baby (Afroz Khan) 3; La Fleuriere (Trevor Patel) 4; Wb: 4-1/2, 1-2, 2L. T: 1-25.86. TB: Magan Singh. Fav: La Fleuriere.
3 Land Of Glory Plate (Div-I) - 1200M: Colt Pistol (Maddal Sai Kumar) Sonu Kumar 1; Cosmico (Mukesh Kumar) 2; Shubhrak (Surya Prakash) 3; Trust Me (Ajeeth Kumar) 4; Wb: 2, Shd, 2L, T: 1-14.93. TB: Shashikanth. Fav: Eminency.
4. Beloved Prince Plate (Div-II) - 1400M: Bestie (AC Muthiah) Akshay Kumar 1; Sharanga (Trevor Patel) 2; Konaseema (Ajeeth Kumar) 3; Moonlite Rose (Afroz Khan) 4; Wb: 2-3/4, 2, 4-1/4L. 1-26.50. TB: Satheesh. Fav: Bestie.
5. Land O Glory Plate (Div-II) - 1200M: Top In Class (Satyanarayana Reddy) Akshay Kumar 1; Swiss Girl (Mukesh Kumar) 2; Smart Boy (Ismail) 3; Golden Inzio(Kuldeep Singh) 4; Wb: 1/2, 6-3/4, 2L. T: 1-14.47. TB: S.S.F.Hassan Fav: Top Class.
6. Be My Guest Plate- 1200M: Glorious Power (Leo Desilva) Sonu Kumar 1; Exclusive Black (Imran Chisty) 2; Clara (Ashhad Asbar) 3; Crimson Flame (Akshay Kumar) 4; Wb: 3, Nk, 2-1/4l. . T: 1-13.29. TB: Leo Desilva. Fav: Exclusive Black.
7. Land Of Glory Plate (Div-III) - 1200M: Blue Pantheress (Maddal Sai Kumar) Sonu Kumar 1; Inderdhanush (Sai Kumar) 2; Lights On (Nakhat Singh) 3; Briar Ridge(B Nikhil) 4; Wb: 5, 3/4, 1L. T: 1-13.94. TB: Shashikanth. Fav: Briar Ridge.

Bangalore dividends:
I race: Rs 14w; 10, 11, 11p; Fc: Rs 60; Q: Rs 60; Shp: Rs 28; Thp: Rs 48; Tri: Rs 159 & 23; Ex: Rs 714 & 535.
II race: Rs 23w; Rs 11, 21, 12p; Fc: Rs 475; Q: Rs 439; Shp: Rs 69; Thp: Rs 31; Tri: Rs 1,406 & 559; Ex: Rs 3,898 & 1,169.
III race: Rs 28w; 13, 13, 51p; Fc: Rs 103; Q: Rs 66; Shp: Rs 29; Thp: Rs 83; Tri: Rs 800 & 716; Ex: Rs 7,558 & 1,766.
IV race: Rs 17w; 10, 11, 13p; Fc: Rs 22; Q: Rs 13; Shp: Rs 25; Thp: Rs 32; Tri: Rs 73 & 56: Ex: Rs 112 & 41.
V race: Rs 21w; 10, 14, 35p; Fc: Rs 57; Q: Rs 51; Shp: Rs 38; Thp: Rs 86; Tri: Rs 643 & 426; Ex: Rs 7,172 & 5,379.
VI race: Rs 62w; 21, 13, 22p; Fc: Rs 128; Q: Rs 47; Shp: Rs 38; Thp: Rs 46; Tri: Rs 539 & 324; Ex: Rs 1,416 & 576.
VII race: Rs 33w; 13, 16, 29p; Fc: Rs 209; Q: Rs 93; Shp: Rs 25; Thp: Rs 60; Tri: Rs 669 & 722; Ex: Rs 4,200 & 787.
Jackpot: Rs 3,431 (92). **Runner-up**: Rs 405 (334). **I treble**: Rs 215 (26). **II treble**: Rs 1,240 (8).

'Aha moment' turns into reality for Manipur divers

ADITYA K HALDER
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Wilson Singh Ningthoujam (left) and Indiver Sairem won India's first-ever medal in the men's synchronised 10m platform at the Asian Aquatics Championships in Ahmedabad on Monday. DH PHOTO

There were tears in Shannon Roy's eyes as the scoreboard lit up at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex here. The Australian coach could barely contain his emotions when his two divers, Willson Singh Ningthoujam and Indiver Sairem, confirmed a historic third place in the men's synchronised 10m platform.

India had edged Uzbekistan in a nail-biting finish to clinch bronze at the Asian Aquatics Championships, and the moment felt like vindication for years of persistence. It wasn't a straightforward medal by any means.

Over six nerve-wracking rounds, the Indians found themselves trading places with the Uzbeks while powerhouses China and Malaysia stayed in their own league. But when the pressure was at its peak, Willson and Indiver held their nerve, tallying 300.66 points, while their rivals faltered later on. This bronze wasn't just a medal; it was India's first-ever podium finish in the event since the tournament began in 1980, and the culmination of Shannon's two years of drilling discipline and self-belief into the pair.

Interestingly, Shannon had already seen this moment coming a few months earlier. "You can call it my 'aha' moment," Shannon tells *DH*. "The result wasn't that good on paper (they were among the bottom two) but I could see they were clicking together, staying true to the process, made me feel we have a chance here."

The two divers have taken to their coach's methods almost religiously. Willson, the senior partner at 32, admitted Shannon was never one for half-measures. "Coach has always set the standards high for us, he never settles for less. It was difficult for us early on when he shortlisted us for the diving programme (at Army Sports Institute in Pune) two years ago. We honestly found it hard and had our low moments but now when we look back it all makes sense as he was pushing us to get the best out of us."

Telepathic

Synchronised diving is not about individual brilliance; it's about unity. Every twist, tuck, and entry into the water is judged not just on technique but on how well two people perform them as one. Eleven judges assess the dive, half of them focusing on the synchronisation — timing of takeoffs, mirror-like positions in mid-air, and the near-identical splash upon entry. Even the most talented diver can drag his team down if the rhythm is off.

That's where the connection between Willson and Indiver has made the difference. "In synchronised events, it's like I have to be inside his mind and he has to be inside my mind if we are to do the same movement," explained Indiver, who at 23 is nearly a decade younger than his partner.

Despite that age gap, the two share a bond rooted in familiarity. Both hail from Manipur and had backgrounds in gymnastics before turning to diving. It's not a rule that partners must come from the same place, but the common ground helped them read each other better in those high-pressure moments.

The medal was not without struggle either. "I had a niggle on my left thumb, making it painful for me every time I dived," said Indiver. "But Willson had an encouraging presence as he kept saying 'no pain, no gain, if I pull this through, we may win a medal.' That really helped me get going."

For Shannon and his divers, the bronze is only the beginning but for Indian diving, it is already a watershed moment that proves the sport can dream bigger.

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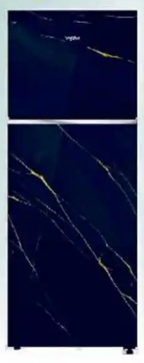

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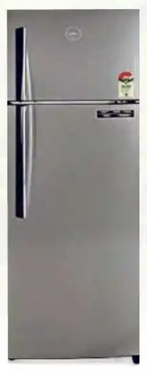

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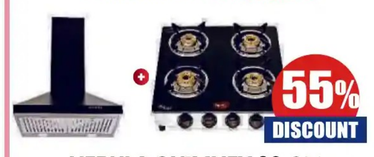

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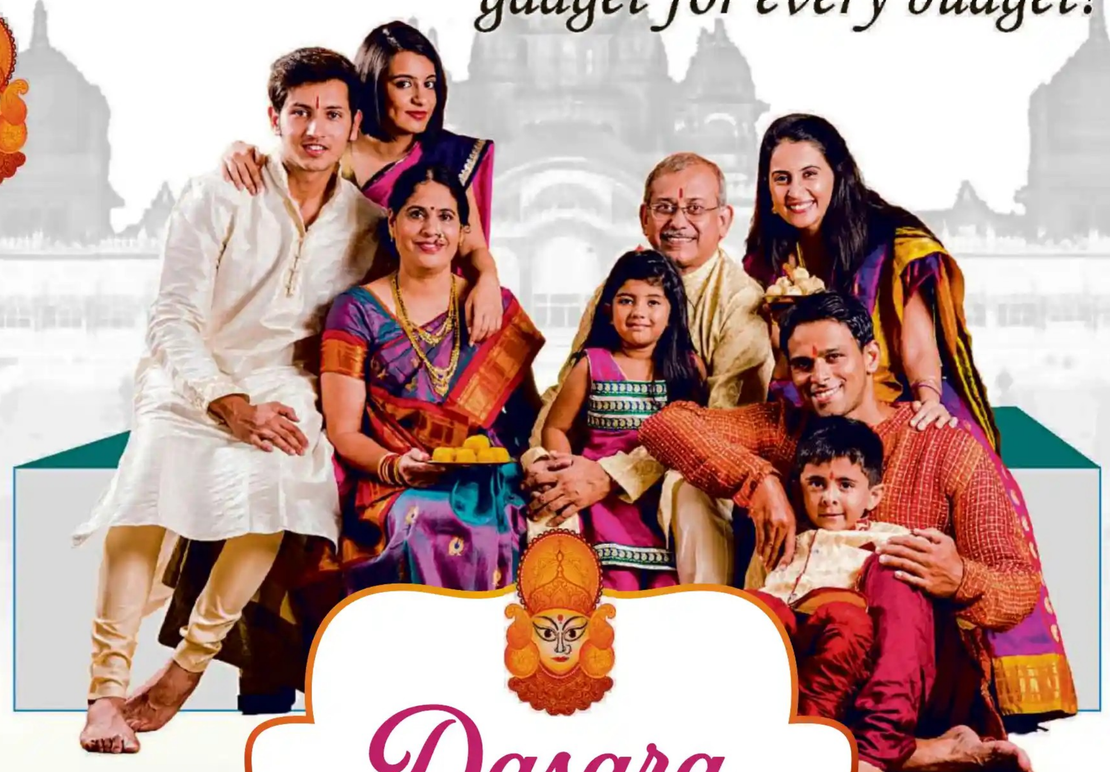

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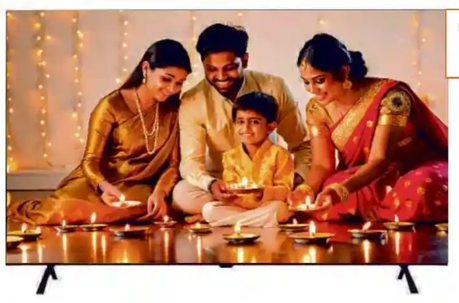

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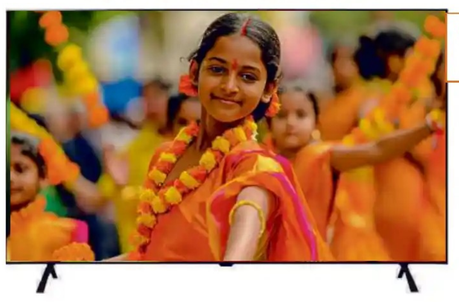

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